

The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and, by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—*Humboldt's Cosmos.*

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Review of the Week.

THE proceedings of Lord DERBY's Government with reference to Lord CANNING have so thoroughly laid bare its weakness and want of even working unity, that nothing but the extraordinary indecision of its opponents could have saved it for an hour. Whatever the objection to be made to the Proclamation of the Governor-General, the mode in which the disapproval of the Cabinet has been conveyed to Lord CANNING has been infinitely more objectionable. That Government had the right to object to Lord CANNING's policy is not to be disputed; but justice and policy both demanded that objections should have been urged with due consideration for his position, that nothing should be done to weaken his authority in the eyes of the turbulent people with whom he was dealing. Lord DERBY and his advisers might have disapproved, "in every sense" the policy developed in the Oude Proclamation; but it was insulting to the Viceroy, and degrading to the character of the English Government, to publish a censure which should have been suffered to meet no eyes besides those to which it was addressed.

The question whether or not the late President of the Board of Control ought to have communicated to Lord ELLENBOROUGH the substance of a private letter from Lord CANNING, in which there was a passage referring to the Oude Proclamation, has been made a great point by the Government party, but has little to do with the matter. Lord ELLENBOROUGH has been too long used to act upon the simple impulse of his "irregular genius" to have given much heed to Lord CANNING's suggested explanations as to the intent and working of his Oude policy; it is doubtful whether the knowledge that Lord CANNING was preparing to explain his Proclamation, or even whether the actual possession of such explanations would have wholly deterred him from seizing the opportunity to strike at the nominee of the Opposition.

From the letter to the Chief Commissioner of Oude which accompanied the Proclamation we may judge the explanations by the light of which Lord CANNING desired his policy to be read. That policy appeared upon the face of it to be excessively severe, but its severity is in a considerable degree modified by the provisions for working it out. With few exceptions the lands of Oude are confiscated to the British Government, but only for the purpose of enabling the Government to deal completely with

the landholders and to mete out justice, for the most part offering them easy terms upon which to regain the occupancy of their possessions. With regard to those chiefs and others who have to be dealt with as rebels, Lord CANNING suggests that they shall be dealt with in four classes. The first includes all who may have been continuously in arms, but are free from suspicion of having put to death or injured any Europeans who may have fallen in their way; these it is proposed to guarantee their lives, but to require that they shall live under surveillance in Lucknow, until their ultimate condition and place of residence shall have been determined. The second class includes those who may have borne arms against the British Government, but less heartily, or even with reluctance; it is proposed to allow these to go at large upon their finding security for their future peaceable conduct. The third class takes in all those who have been least compromised in the rebellion, and in whom sufficient confidence may be placed to enrol them in the service of the police for the maintenance of order. The fourth class embraces those whose crimes are so serious that their only treatment must be penal: to these nothing but rigid justice is to be done, no overtures made, no promises given, beyond that of life to such as can prove that they have not been concerned in any special act of atrocity. Such is the scope of Lord CANNING's policy in dealing with reconquered Oude, for which he has been so hastily censured by Lord DERBY's Government.

Objectionable as many acts of Lord CANNING have been, his Oude policy, upon closer inspection, appears to be not so bad as it seemed at first, and the exulting spirit with which Lord ELLENBOROUGH hastened to make a vacancy in the Governor-Generalship was a treachery to the country. His self-immolation, his request to be allowed to take the whole responsibility upon his own shoulders, does little to mend matters; nor should we get any advantage from the sacrifice of Mr. BAILLIE, to whose indecent want of reticence the publication of Lord ELLENBOROUGH's despatch in its entirety was owing. Even if no direct vote of censure should be carried next week in the lower House on the motion of Mr. CARDWELL, the damage done to Lord DERBY's Government by the course it has chosen to pursue in this matter is beyond remedy: it stands clearly incapable of conducting the Government of India.

The majority which rejected the Lords' Amendments of the Oaths Bill was most decisive, being

no less than 113. The House of Commons has, indeed, so strongly pronounced itself, that the only remaining question is how to save the susceptibilities of the Upper House. Lord JOHN RUSSELL has adopted precisely the best course. He has had a committee appointed to draw up the reasons of those who voted with the majority for rejecting the Lords' Amendments with a view to holding a conference with their Lordships. These reasons are excellent, and in effect recapitulate the best arguments that have ever been used in favour of the measure. It has now to be seen whether the last attempt to induce the Lords to move with the spirit of the time will be successful; should the attempt be a failure, the House of Commons, it is understood, will at once proceed to act upon some new plan of seating Baron ROTHSCHILD. A curious and striking illustration of the unseasonableness of their opposition will be presented to their Lordships when the committee appear at the bar of their House, Baron ROTHSCHILD himself being among the number, to plead his right to a seat in Parliament with their Lordships' concurrence.

The attempt of Mr. AYTON to arrange an equalization of the Metropolitan Poor-rates has failed. Throughout the debates which have taken place on the subject, the anomalies and hardships of the present system of rating have been over and over again admitted; but the always-ready argument of opponents that the remedy proposed is insufficient for the perfect cure of the evil to be dealt with, has again triumphed. Mr. AYTON has withdrawn his bill, and the subject is put aside for another year at least.

A better fortune has attended Sir JOHN TRELAWNY's Abolition of Church-rates Bill, which has passed through committee triumphantly. On this question the battle has been fairly fought out, and the victory is so complete, that not a word need be said in the way of pointing a moral for those who doubted or counselled compromise.

Mr. LAYARD's return from India occurs at a convenient moment. His object in visiting India was to assure himself with his own eyes of the actual state of things there, and he has returned fully assured. His first publicly-delivered words are the key-notes of the dirge he is prepared to sing over India. The question will be how far Mr. LAYARD's hastily acquired experience in Indian matters will be useful, or his conclusions trustworthy. He possesses all the qualities that go to make up an accomplished traveller; but he undertakes now to settle the rights of a most difficult question upon

the strength of qualities that seem to fall short of those required for the discharge of such high judicial functions. Mr. LAYARD returns home with a strong case; he reiterates every charge of bad government and oppression that has been made since the outbreak of the mutiny, and affirms that he has found the proofs of their correctness. He says that it is his fate never to be able to "make things pleasant;" and he has certainly no intention of attempting to do so at present; the only doubt whether he has not brought back with him from India too strong a case.

Surprises are so common in connexion with the Spanish Court that they surprise nobody; so that when the electric telegraph brought us sudden news that, for some unexplained reason, the Queen of SPAIN had seen fit to dissolve the Cortes, we felt no surprise, and only troubled ourselves to make an off-hand guess or two at the probable reason; was it in consequence of a demand from a certain "personage" to test his power?—or a regular coup d'état, with a view to wiping out the constitution at one move? We have not yet been told what were her Majesty's inducements; but it has been whispered that the clearing away of popular objection to the carrying of a French railway into the heart of Spain may have had a good deal to do with the matter.

There seems, at length, to be a prospect of the Kansas difficulty finding a satisfactory solution. A compromise has been proposed, and has passed both Houses. It takes order for referring the Le-compton constitution to the people, but on a question as to the disposal of land: thus the people can reject it *en bloc* if they please, without a direct reference of the Slavery question; but if they reject it, they must vote a new constitution in accordance with federal law.

A case, tried in the Court of Exchequer on Monday last, shows the still precarious operation of the system of crossing bankers' cheques. The action was brought against the London Joint-Stock Bank to recover the amount of a cheque drawn upon it and paid, but from which the cross lines had been erased before presentation. The ruling of the court was, that the bank was not liable, inasmuch as at the time the cheque was presented for payment it was made payable simply "to bearer," whatever the intention of the drawer of the cheque might have been. Now there seems to be a mode of putting this matter on a clear and easy footing; it is that, instead of making crossed cheques payable by crossing through any banker, they should be made payable only to a banker specified in the body of the cheque.

The Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes has been busy during the week, and it is evident that its working will be most satisfactory. Already it has disposed of several causes that would never have been adjudicated under the old, costly, and repressive system; and the tendency of the judgments is plainly to extend the operation of the new law as widely as its best wishers can desire.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

ARTISTS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

THE anniversary dinner in aid of this fund took place last Saturday evening at the Freemasons' Tavern. Mr. Dickens was in the chair, and was supported by Sir Charles Eastlake, Mr. David Roberts, R.A., Mr. Elmore, R.A., and several other members of the Royal Academy. In proposing the toast, "Prosperity to the Artists' Benevolent Fund," Mr. Dickens said:—"In appealing to those around him on behalf of a fund constituted for such a purpose, he would be no party to the common cant of presenting to their notice the professors of imaginative art as a set of babies whom they ought, as it were, to 'dry nurse.' On the contrary, he should speak of them as a class of men whose care for to-day and to-morrow was not to be exceeded by any other class of men in existence—as a class of men who had rendered immense services to the community. He was, indeed, strongly disposed to believe that very few debates in Parliament were half so important to the public welfare as a good picture, and that any number of bushels of the driest legal chaff that was ever chopped would be cheaply exchanged for one really meritorious, really accessible, and really humanizing engraving. At a highly

distinguished annual festival at which he had the honour to be a guest—a festival which was held behind two fountains—he sometimes observed that great Ministers of State and other exalted functionaries seemed to take a strange delight in somewhat ostentatiously declaring that they possessed no knowledge of art, and were very particular in impressing upon the company the circumstance that they had passed their lives in severe studies. Now, it had always struck him upon these occasions that those distinguished personages must regard artists to some extent in the light of dancing-dogs or as a species of Punch's show, upon which men might look condescendingly when they had nothing else to do; and he had invariably taken the liberty of entertaining his own private opinion that all that sort of thing was complacent 'bosh,' and of reserving to himself the strong belief that the neighbourhood of Trafalgar-square, Pall-mall, and Suffolk-street was quite as important to the head and heart of the empire as that of Downing-street or Westminster-hall. Upon those grounds, and upon grounds not an inch lower, he should submit to those whom he saw around him the recommendation of three hundred artists in favour of the Artists' Benevolent Fund, and should beg of them to do honour to that recommendation by giving to it their best support." The toast was received with the utmost enthusiasm, and the amount of subscriptions and donations to the fund was announced, at a subsequent hour of the evening, to be upwards of 600*l*.

ST. MARK'S HOSPITAL, CITY-ROAD.—In celebration of the twenty-third anniversary of this excellent Institution a dinner was given last evening at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, when Mr. Henry Hoare presided, and was supported by a very numerous company of gentlemen, most of whom were liberal contributors to its funds. During the past year, two hundred and eighty-four persons were discharged cured, three hundred and thirty materially relieved, and three only considered as incurable. Since its foundation there have been no less a number of patients than 10,981. In proposing the toast of the Queen's health, the chairman greatly astonished his auditory by entering into a long argument in support of Convocation, to the alleged advantages of which he bore testimony, adding that he had given great attention to the subject. He then said he intended to give 100*l*. to the fund as a penalty for the introduction of matter so foreign to the subject in hand. The subscription list announced a sum of between 800*l*. and 900*l*. for the past year.

RAGGED SCHOOL UNION.—This society held its annual meeting on Monday night in Exeter-hall, the Earl of Shaftesbury presiding. After an opening address from the chairman, the secretary read the annual report, which announced an increased number of scholars in the schools, an improved state of finances, and a general extension of the various operations of the union. The number of Sunday schools in the union is 134, containing 20,500 scholars; day schools, 98, containing 14,300 scholars; week evening schools, 131, containing 8650 scholars. The voluntary teachers number 2580, and the paid teachers, 328. There are nine shoe-black societies in various parts of London. Of these, the three most important—the red, yellow, and blue brigades, containing 190 boys, earned during the year 3227*l*., about 1*s*. a day for each boy; 57 of the teachers have been formerly themselves ragged scholars, and 105 of the pupils have become communicants of various Christian bodies. A large number of the scholars have been placed in service at home and in the colonies, of whom several have entered the army and the navy. The penny banks have received 2580*l*., from 15,000 depositors.

THE ANNEXATION OF OUDE.—A public meeting was held at Sheffield on Tuesday, at which the seizure of Oude was loudly denounced.

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL.—The fifty-third annual meeting of this society took place on Monday, in the School-room, Borough-road. The chair was first occupied by Lord John Russell, and afterwards by Earl Granville. The former, in addressing the company, dwelt on the advantages of education; on the deficiency of instruction in this country; and on the necessity of pushing forward the good cause without reference to party. Indeed, he observed, all parties are agreed as to the value of education; and he paid a high compliment to the present First Lord of the Admiralty (Sir John Pakington) for his services in promoting the desired end.—Some complaints were made by Mr. Taggart, a Unitarian minister, to the effect that the committee had published or sanctioned books of a sectarian character; but an amendment, seeking to appoint Mr. Price, M.P., and Mr. Alderman Lawrence, to the committee, was withdrawn, after some discussion. Earl Granville, in addressing the meeting, congratulated his countrymen on the spread of education, and observed:—"There is a museum collected in a very ugly building in South Kensington, visited by half a million of persons in the course of the year, 40,000 of whom, chiefly of the poorer classes, do not grudge the payment of the student's fee in order to study the objects there collected. This is an instance of the increasing love of intellectual amusements and pursuits which the friends of the British and Foreign School Society might be proud of having in no mean degree promoted and stimulated." After some further addresses, the meeting separated.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, May 10th.

LORD CANNING'S PROCLAMATION AND THE GOVERNMENT DESPATCH.

IN the HOUSE OF LORDS, the Earl of SHAFTESBURY gave notice that on Friday he would move a resolution condemnatory of the last despatch of the Government to the Governor-General of India, and he promised to lay the words of the resolution on the table on the following day.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH begged to lay the despatch in full on the table, for the convenience of the noble Earl. (Laughter.) He might as well take the opportunity of explaining how it happened that the House of Commons got the whole of the despatch, while their Lordships only got a part. It had been intended to lay the whole despatch before their Lordships and the other House, and the Secretary of the Indian Board had the whole despatch in his hand to lay before the House of Commons. It was strictly understood, however, subsequently, between him (Lord Ellenborough) and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that extracts only should be given, because they considered it would be inconvenient to give certain passages; but, before any communication of their intentions was made to the Secretary of the Indian Board, he had laid the whole despatch on the table of the House of Commons. As there seemed to be some misunderstanding respecting the copy of the despatch that had been given to a member of the House of Commons, he (Lord Ellenborough) desired to give an explanation on the subject. The noble Earl opposite (Lord Granville) having asked for information respecting the despatch, he (Lord Ellenborough) sent him a copy of it, and, having done so, he considered it was but fair to send a copy also to the member of the House of Commons (Mr. Bright) who had likewise put a question in reference to it. The noble Earl got his first, and the same messenger carried both copies. The messenger went first to the noble Earl's residence, and, by accident, the hon. member of the other House, having left the residence to which it was directed, did not get possession of the despatch for some hours after it reached the noble Earl.—In answer to a question from Earl GREY, LORD ELLENBOROUGH admitted that the Government was only in possession of the first draught of Lord Canning's Proclamation—not the copy actually issued by the authorities in Oude. The Government did not even know with certainty that the Proclamation had been published in India at all. They had received no direct communication from the Governor-General for nearly a month.

An animated conversation ensued, from which it appeared that Mr. Vernon Smith, the late President of the Board of Control, had since his retirement from office received a private letter from Lord Canning, in which he stated that the proclamation he was about to issue would probably require some future explanation, which the pressure of public business prevented him from giving at the moment. That letter had not been communicated by Mr. Vernon Smith to his successor in office; and Lord ELLENBOROUGH said he was not aware that a letter had been received.—The Earl of MALMESBURY observed that it is usual for any Minister receiving even a private letter, after quitting office, which related to the business of the department to which he had belonged, to communicate it to his successor.—The Marquis of LANSDOWN explained that Mr. Vernon Smith did not receive the letter till the evening of the previous Thursday, after the question in reference to the Proclamation had been asked in the House of Commons.

The Earl of ALBEMARLE said he would postpone the resolutions with reference to the annexation of the states of native princes in India of which he had given notice. He did not want to have it supposed that he sanctioned in any way the extraordinary conduct of her Majesty's Government in censuring a Governor-General engaged, and skilfully engaged, in suppressing one of the greatest mutinies on record. There were probably few of their Lordships who would not deprecate the tone of the despatch which had been written in reference to the Proclamation of the Governor-General. The conduct of the Government towards him was most unwise and most indiscreet; and the publication of the despatch by the President of the Board of Control, before the person to whom it was addressed was cognizant of it, was, he conceived, positively illegal.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH said the noble Lord had done justice to one Governor-General, and he hoped he would do justice to another. The resolutions of the noble Lord conveyed the strongest possible censure on Lord Dalhousie; but they did not state fairly the principle upon which he had acted. If the policy of Lord Dalhousie was to be censured, the principle by which he was guided should be stated in his own words.

The subject then dropped.

THE CUSTOMS DUTIES (No. 2) BILL, the EXCISE BILL, and the EXCHEQUER BONDS (2,000,000*l*.) were read a third time.

Their Lordships adjourned at half-past six o'clock.

CITY OF LIMERICK ELECTION.

IN the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. DUNLOP brought up the report of the City of Limerick election committee. The committee reported that Major Gavan was not duly

deleted, and that the election is void, the said Major Gavan having been guilty, by his agents, of several acts of bribery (which were enumerated); but the committee also found that such acts of bribery had taken place without the knowledge or consent of Major Gavan.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.—VOTE OF CENSURE.

Mr. CARDWELL gave notice that on the ensuing Thursday he should move a resolution in the following terms:—"That this House, while it abstains from expressing any opinion upon the policy of any proclamation of the Governor-General of India in relation to Oude, has seen with regret and serious apprehension that Mr. Majesty's Government have addressed to the Governor-General, through the Secret Committee of the Board of Directors, a despatch condemning, in strong terms, the policy of the Governor-General, and are of opinion that such a course must, under present circumstances in India, produce a most prejudicial effect, by weakening the authority of the Governor-General, and encouraging the further resistance of those who are still in arms against us."

THE OATHS BILL.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL moved that the House disagree with the Lords' amendment on the Oaths Bill, by which the clause affecting members of the Jewish faith was omitted.—Mr. NEWDEGATE defended the amendment, and denounced the clause as founded on revolutionary principles. Consequently, the House of Lords—a set of men the most intellectual, the most wise, and the most enlightened—had refused its sanction to the clause. If the House of Commons should take upon themselves to be the sole authority in the kingdom, as once before the Long Parliament had done, they would find that they had overstepped the bounds of discretion and the patience of the country. (A laugh.)

Sir RICHARD BETHELL said that, should it become necessary, he should feel it to be his duty to suggest a course, perfectly constitutional, by which the great object of the bill might be accomplished. He might appeal to every constitutional lawyer whether usage did not warrant the conclusion that, when a particular measure had been adopted by that House in a series of Parliaments for many years, and which represented the view of the nation, it was not the duty of the other House to yield to the often-repeated wishes of the House of Commons. If all their appeals, however, were in vain, and if the exclusion of the Jews from that House depended, as he insisted it did, upon a perverted and fraudulent application of the law, then he conceived it to be the duty of that House to consider whether there was any constitutional course of proceeding left for it to adopt. He deprecated any course that would produce a collision with the courts of law, and hoped that no member would rashly bring forward a resolution of that kind. His proposition would relieve the House from any apprehension of a controversy with the established courts of justice. The bill as amended imposed a larger amount of disability upon the Jews.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON denied that the course which he took last year in the select committee pledged him to bring forward his previous resolution as a distinct motion on the present occasion.—Mr. WARREN observed that only two constituencies had elected Jews; and the law of the land was not to be altered on that account. If a constituency chose to elect a woman (a laugh), or a minor, or a foreigner, it did not follow that the legislature was to admit them. Not a single Jew had petitioned for the admission of Jews to Parliament; and he believed that public opinion is adverse to the change.

The House then divided, when it was decided to disagree with the Lords' amendments by 263 to 150.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL moved that the House disagree with the Lords' amendments to Clause 9; and the motion was carried.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL then moved the appointment of a committee to draw up reasons for disagreeing with the Lords' amendments; the committee to consist of Lord John Russell, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir John Pakington, Lord Stanley, Sir Fitzroy Kelly, Lord Palmerston, Sir G. C. Lewis, Sir George Grey, Mr. Labouchere, Sir James Graham, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Cardwell, Sir Richard Bethell, Mr. Bright, Mr. Milner Gibson, Mr. Horman, Mr. Thomas Duncombe, Mr. Headlam, Mr. Roebuck, Mr. Moncrieff, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Sergeant Dewey, and Mr. Abel Smith.—Mr. DUNCOMBE moved that the return for the City of London of Baron Rothschild be read at the table.—The certificate of the Clerk of the Crown was read accordingly.—Mr. DUNCOMBE then moved that Baron Nathan de Rothschild be appointed a member of that committee. The House had a precedent for so acting. That a member of that House, though he had not been sworn at the table, could serve on committees, had been decided by 225 votes against 117 in 1716.—Mr. DILLWYN seconded the motion. The House would thus show the practical absurdity of a law which allows a Jew to discharge a portion of his duties as a member, and not the whole of it.—After some desultory discussion, it was agreed (at the suggestion of some members of the Government and of Lord PALMERSTON) that the motion should be adjourned to the following day.

NEW ZEALAND LOAN.

On the motion for going into committee of supply, Sir JOHN TRELAUNY called the attention of the House to passages in the evidence given by one of the witnesses

(a Mr. Sewell) before the New Zealand Loan (500,000) Guarantee Committee, and to compare the same with records of the proceedings of the New Zealand House of Assembly, in which the witness took part; also, to certain dealings (by a Mr. Mantell) with the natives for the sale of their lands, and to the manner in which recent contracts made with them, with respect to schools and hospitals, by a Government officer, have been carried into effect.

Lord STANLEY, in replying, said he was willing to admit that unjustifiable transactions had, on many occasions, taken place with regard to the purchase of land from the aborigines. They had generally taken place, not in consequence, but in defiance, of the policy and wishes of the Government. When land is purchased from natives, it should be recollected that the value depends, in a great measure, on what is afterwards done with it by the purchaser; and, therefore, it is not to be expected that a large sum should be given. But, with regard to the promise of schools and hospitals, although there was no doubt that Mr. Mantell held out, as he believed he was authorized to hold out, promises to the natives, yet he believed that nothing in the nature of a contract could be said to have been entered into, and for this plain reason, that nowhere could he find the slightest approximation to a statement of what was the amount to be expended for these objects. It was quite clear that a general promise to provide hospital accommodation and schools, no fund being set aside for the purpose, could hardly be said to have assumed the definite form of a contract, although it might be an obligation in point of morality. But he must remind the hon. baronet that the power had been taken out of the hands of the Imperial Legislature. The moment the control of the waste lands passed into the hands of the Colonial Legislature, that Legislature took upon itself all those obligations.

After some further discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

THE ARMY.

General CODRINGTON, previous to the House going into Committee of Supply, called attention to certain defects in the management of the army. Our forces are to consist of 200,000 men, and for this we must have large recruiting establishments, as the supply of men must be between twenty and thirty thousand a year. The manner in which recruiting is carried on is disgraceful, and recent regulations have tended to prevent the enlistment of men from agricultural districts. Regiments should be named from towns, and be recruited from the neighbourhood of those towns; there would then be no difficulty in inducing men to join the service. The military train should be kept to its original purpose, and should be stationed in the vicinity of Aldershot. Another point to which he wished to draw attention was, that English officers in the Ionian Islands have to pay duty on the wine they drink; and he hoped the Government would take the matter into consideration.

Mr. MONSELL, referring to an explanation given by the Secretary for War on a previous occasion, stated that the income of the Carshalton Academy is 5000*l.* a year, and the expenditure 4500*l.*, so that at present there is no charge upon the State for this establishment. But, if they stopped admission to the Academy, the number of students would gradually decrease, and the State would be called upon to contribute to the expenses. Perfect faith would be kept with the students, if, without charging the country with their education, the Government allowed them, after passing a certain examination, to enter the academy at Woolwich. He appealed to the Secretary for War to take into consideration the expediency of building an additional barrack in connexion with the Military College at Woolwich, in order that the young men might not be compelled to sleep several in one bed.

General PEEL said that he had given great consideration to the subject of recruiting, and, with respect to Mr. Monsell's suggestions, he promised to pay every attention to the subjects involved. He then made some statements with reference to the Army Estimates. Before the Indian mutiny broke out, the military force consisted of 137,000 men, of whom 30,000 were on service in India. The present force is 223,000 men, showing an increase of 66,000 within the year. To supply the augmentation already arranged, and to fill up the loss from casualties, &c., at least 50,000 recruits must be provided during the current twelvemonth. He apprehended no difficulty, however, in obtaining this number, large as it was, since not fewer than 48,000 men had been enlisted within the last eight months.

After some further discussion, the House went into Committee of Supply on the Army Estimates, when various votes were agreed to, and the Chairman was ordered to report progress. The House, having resumed, next went into Committee of Ways and Means, and voted 11,000,000*l.* out of the Consolidated Fund for the service of the country.

PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND LOAN.

The House then went into Committee upon this subject, and Lord STANLEY moved a resolution, granting the guarantee of this country to a loan not exceeding 100,000*l.*, at four per cent.—The motion was agreed to, and the House resumed.

CHELSEA-BRIDGE ACT AMENDMENT.

Lord JOHN MANNERS moved for leave to bring in a

bill to amend the Act of the 9 & 10 Vict., cap. 39, relative to Chelsea-bridge. The object of the bill is, that, when the sum borrowed from the Exchequer Loan Commissioners has been returned, the toll on the bridge shall cease.

The House adjourned at a few minutes after one o'clock.

Tuesday, May 11th.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, the Royal assent was given by commission to several bills.

LORD CANNING'S PROCLAMATION.—RESIGNATION OF LORD ELLENBOROUGH.

The Marquis of LANDOWNE corrected an error into which he had fallen on the previous night with reference to the note received by Mr. Vernon Smith from Lord Canning. What he should have stated was that Mr. Vernon Smith had observed that there was no use showing the letter after the censure on the Proclamation had gone out. He wished to add, in answer to any question that might naturally be asked on the subject, that no communication whatever from Lord Canning had been received by Mr. Vernon Smith since that to which he had already alluded. That letter was almost wholly a private letter, and contained only one paragraph of public interest, expressing Lord Canning's annoyance that the pressure of public business prevented his giving a full explanation of his Proclamation.

The Earl of DEAN said the explanation given by the noble Marquis made a great difference in the circumstances of the case; because it appeared that, if the contents of this note had been communicated to Lord Ellenborough, as they might have been, on the 19th of April, they would have been in ample time to produce an effect on his noble friend's mind before the answer to the Proclamation was sent out. The Proclamation was dated the 19th of April, and was sent out on the 20th; consequently, if Mr. Vernon Smith had communicated to the Board of Control the contents of Lord Canning's note, the object contemplated by Lord Canning would have been attained, and Lord Ellenborough would not have sent out to India a premature condemnation of the Proclamation. He was unwilling to impute improper motives to Mr. Vernon Smith; but the course adopted by him was not that which should be pursued by an ex-Minister towards his successor.

Earl GRANVILLE explained that, on the return of Mr. Vernon Smith from Ireland, where he was attending the marriage of his son, he found this private letter awaiting him; but could he suppose that immediately after the receipt of the Proclamation, one of the strongest censures that could be expressed would be sent out to the Governor-General?

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH said that the letter enclosing the Proclamation was received on the 12th of April; the answer was not written until the 18th; it was dated on the 19th, and it was not sent out until the 26th. "There was, therefore, ample time for consideration; and the more he reflected on it the stronger he felt to be the necessity of sending out the answer. He was not accused for writing the letter, nor had he heard any one defend the confiscation of the proprietary rights; the only question raised was—was it or was it not right to publish that letter? (Hear, hear.) As far as he understood, the resolutions to be moved on Friday related to that subject only. The publication of the letter was wholly his act, and he took upon himself the entire responsibility. Some time before, he had written a secret letter to the Governor-General, in contemplation of the capture of Lucknow, in which he directed him to temper justice with generosity, and to establish an amnesty and the ordinary administration of the law as soon as possible. He apprehended that obstructions would be offered to the Governor-General, in the execution of those orders the subordinate officers, maddened by the scenes they had witnessed; and he told the Governor-General to persevere in what he thought was right; and that he should have the unqualified support of the Government. Soon after that letter was sent out, he received this Proclamation, inflicting confiscation, and framed in direct contradiction of the principles of his letter. The principle of confiscating the entire proprietary rights of the people of India was not clemency—it was not amnesty; it was persecution after defeat; it was contrary to every principle laid down in the letter he had written; it was contrary to the feelings of the Government; and he felt it to be his duty to express as he had done his sentiments respecting it. He should have been unworthy of a seat in that House if he had acted otherwise." The letter was a message of peace to the people of India, and it would give consolation to those who are living in fear of retribution. Probably, he ought to have obtained the sanction of his colleagues to the publication of the letter; but he had not done so, and therefore it was absurd to make the Government generally responsible for the act. He was alone accountable for the publication. "The question would be viewed very differently in this country and in India. In this country it is a question between one party and another; but in India it would be understood to be a question between the conflicting principles of confiscation and clemency. He felt satisfied that, according to the decision of that and of the other House of Parliament inclined to the one or the other of those principles, there would be sown broadcast throughout India the seeds of perpetual war; or there would be given to the people of that country and of England the hopes of permanent reconciliation and

of peace. Personal considerations too much swayed the decisions of both Houses of Parliament, and he was determined to remove those considerations. He was determined that this question should be argued on its merits, and he would do all he could to secure the peace of India. Therefore, he had tendered to her Majesty his resignation, and it had been accepted." (Cheers.)

Earl GREY submitted that they should not discuss the Proclamation of Lord Canning while they were in ignorance of the reasons which induced him to issue it. More had been made of Mr. Vernon Smith's neglecting to transmit the note he had received than the matter deserved, because the Government was bound to conclude that an explanation would come in due time from Lord Canning.

The Earl of DERBY altogether dissented from that opinion, and, alluding to Lord Ellenborough, said that, if his noble friend had committed any indiscretion, he had more than atoned for it by the manly course he had adopted. The Government had felt it to be their duty to censure Lord Canning's Proclamation, but they thought the publication of the censure objectionable. However, Lord Ellenborough, as he himself had stated, was alone answerable for the publication. Nothing was more painful to him (Lord Derby) than to be suspected of sacrificing a colleague; but he was bound not to be actuated by private feeling, but by the consideration of what was due to the country. Were Ministers to take upon themselves the defence of what they could not defend—of an act of which they were not in the slightest degree cognizant—or were they to accept the self-sacrifice of the noble Lord, who by his generosity allowed his colleagues to have justice done? He felt it his duty to accept that act of self-sacrifice, though he separated from the noble Lord with the deepest regret, and hoped he should have the benefit of his valuable and disinterested advice in dealing with the affairs of India.

Earl GRANVILLE expressed his concurrence in a portion of the eulogy pronounced upon Lord Ellenborough, and then alluded to the answer given by Mr. Baillie to the question addressed to him in the House of Commons.—The Earl of DERBY remarked that Mr. Baillie had given the answer on his own responsibility.—Earl GRANVILLE said it was quite clear that Mr. Baillie must have had notice of the question, and he could have communicated with the noble Earl on the matter.—The subject then dropped.

LORD SHAFTESBURY'S RESOLUTIONS.

Lord SHAFTESBURY laid on the table the resolutions which he proposed to move on the following Friday. They ran thus:—"1st. That it appears from the papers laid upon the table of this House that a despatch has been addressed by the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors to the Governor-General of India, disapproving of a Proclamation which the Governor-General had informed the Court he intended to issue after the fall of Lucknow. 2ndly. That it is known only from intelligence that has reached this country by the correspondence published in the newspapers that the intended Proclamation has been issued, and with an important modification, no official account of the proceeding having yet been received; that this House is, therefore, still without full information as to the ground upon which Lord Canning has acted, and his answer to the objections made to his intended Proclamation in the despatch of the Secret Committee cannot be received for several weeks. 3rdly. That under these circumstances this House is unable to form a judgment on the Proclamation issued by Lord Canning, but thinks it ought to express its disapprobation of the premature publication by her Majesty's Ministers of the despatch addressed to the Governor-General, because this public condemnation of his conduct must tend to weaken the authority of the Governor-General, and to encourage those who are now in arms against this country."

The TRANSFER OF LAND BILL was read a third time, and passed, by a majority of one, the numbers being—for, 13; against, 12.

Their Lordships adjourned at a quarter to eight o'clock.

THE VOTE OF CENSURE.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. CARDWELL's vote of censure on the Government, in connexion with the Ellenborough letter to Lord Canning, was postponed from Thursday to Friday, in consequence of Sir JOHN TRELAWNY, who had a motion on the paper for the first-named night, not consenting to give way.

THE BENGAL ESTABLISHMENT.

In answer to Mr. VANSITTART, Mr. H. BAILLIE said it was quite true that three new regiments of Europeans were to be raised for the East India Company's service, and they were to be officered from the six native Sepoy regiments that had been disbanded. The officers of Sepoy regiments were to be taken for each new regiment; but the regiments to be selected would be left to the discretion of the Governor-General of India.

EDUCATION (IRELAND).

Replying to Mr. BAGWELL, Lord NAAS said it was not intended to legislate during the present session on the report of the Endowed Schools (Ireland) Commission.

THE CAGLIARI.

In reply to Mr. KINNAIRD, Mr. SEYMOUR FITZGERALD said that a definite amount of compensation for

the two English engineers, Watt and Park, to be demanded from the Neapolitan Government, had been indicated to Mr. Lyons; but he declined to state any further particulars in relation to the affair.

WESTMINSTER HALL.

Lord JOHN MANNERS, correcting an answer given by him on the previous evening, stated that a vote would be taken this year for an ornamental doorway in Westminster Hall, in the place of the doorway by which the public are now admitted to the building.

THE OATHS BILL.

The adjourned debate, in connexion with the Lords' Amendments on the Oaths Bill, on the motion that Baron Lionel Nathan de Rothschild be one of the members of the Committee, for consulting with the other House, was resumed by the SOLICITOR-GENERAL, who said that, in his opinion, there was nothing in any act of Parliament, or in Parliamentary practice, to preclude the House from nominating the Baron.—Mr. WHITEHEAD took a different view, and suggested several difficulties that were likely to arise from the proposed step.—Mr. HEADLAM supported the motion, which was opposed by Mr. MACAULAY.—Mr. COLLIER insisted that the precedent which had been quoted was exactly a case in point.—The motion was further supported by Mr. PULLER, and opposed by Mr. MALINS and Mr. DRUMMOND.—The House divided on the motion, when the numbers were—

For	251
Against	196
Majority for the motion.....	55

The result of the division was received with cheers.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL then moved that the committee do withdraw immediately; and the motion was agreed to.

MINING OPERATIONS IN THE DUCHY OF LANCASTER.

Mr. RICARDO presented petitions from the copyholders and inhabitants and the corporation of the borough of Hanley, in the Staffordshire Potteries, complaining of the peril to their lives and property to which they are subjected by the mining operations under the Duchy of Lancaster, and moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the allegations of the petitioners.—Mr. BAINES, having held the office of Chancellor of the Duchy under the late administration (which is now held by a member of the other House), replied to Mr. Ricardo, and suggested that a court of law is the proper tribunal to appeal to.—Mr. ALDERMAN COPELAND, Lord INGESTRE, and Mr. WISE supported the motion, which was opposed by the Marquis of HARTINGTON, Sir RICHARD BETHELL, Mr. ATHERTON, and Mr. WALPOLE, the last named of whom expressed his opinion that nothing would be gained by submitting this strictly legal question to a select committee. He had proposed to the parties that a special case should be prepared and submitted to a court of law, subject to an appeal to the Exchequer Chamber or the House of Lords. This he thought was the proper course to be taken, and he could not consent to appoint a select committee to institute an inquiry which would lead to no result, and to consider a point of law upon which it could not decide.

Mr. RICARDO having briefly replied, the House divided, and the motion was lost by 128 to 63.

PRIVATE BILL COMMITTEES.

Lord ROBERT CECIL moved, by way of resolution, "That in the opinion of that House it was expedient that investigations into the merits of private bills, at present conducted by select committees of that House, should in future, as soon as the necessary arrangements could be made, be conducted by a paid and permanent tribunal."—Mr. WILSON PATEN admitted that the present system of discussing and examining private bills, by means of select committees, required alteration. He objected, however, to the motion now proposed as being too vague, and presenting no practical remedy.—Lord STANLEY also opposed the motion, contending that on the whole the select committees arrived at better results than could be accomplished by any other machinery. The questions involved in private bills related not only to individual claims and rights, but to public interests with which the House alone was competent to deal.—After some further discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

SANITARY CONDITION OF THE ARMY.

Lord EBRINGTON moved a series of resolutions to the following effect:—"That the long continued excessive mortality of the British Army has been mainly caused by the bad sanitary condition of their barrack accommodation; that the House has viewed with satisfaction the efforts of successive Governments to improve the moral, intellectual, and physical condition of the British soldier; that much still remains to be done with regard to barrack accommodation, for its increase with a view to the discontinuance of the practice of billeting, and for its improvement; and that such increase and improvement are imperatively called for, not less by good policy and true economy than by justice and humanity." He supported this motion by an array of facts which have been already submitted to the readers of this journal.—Sir F. SMITH disputed some of Lord Ebrington's data, and denied that the mortality in the army is attributable in any great degree to the want of cubical space in barracks.—Captain ANNESLEY also questioned some of the noble Lord's statements.—Mr. WILLIAMS complained that much of the money voted by that House

for the comfort of the soldier was spent in erecting a pavilion for the Queen at Aldershot.—Colonel NORTH conceived that night duty had a good deal to do with the mortality in the army.—Mr. PEASE thought the present not the fittest time for raising the question of increased barrack accommodation.—Sir JOSEPH PAXTON and Sir HARRY VERNY supported the motion.—Lord PALMERSTON acknowledged that the subject was one of the highest importance, and that it was true economy to make outlays to secure the health of our soldiers. But he did not think that any blame attached in this matter to the departments. It was only within a few years that mankind had found out that pure air is conducive to health. He hoped, however, the resolutions would be agreed to, as indicating a wish on the part of the House that attention should continue to be paid to barrack accommodation.—Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT observed that, whatever might be the causes of the excessive mortality in the army, the fact was certain, and the reason why the report dwelt upon the deficiency of cubical space in barracks was that it was only a matter of pounds, shillings, and pence.—General PHEL said, so far from objecting to the resolutions—although he did not see the necessity of them—he considered that their effect would be to support the Government. Nothing would give him greater pleasure than to carry out the recommendations of the Sanitary Commissioners.—Various matters connected more or less nearly with the health and comfort of the soldier were adverted to by Colonel PENNANT, Sir WILLIAM CODRINGTON, Colonel KNOX, Mr. MONSELL, Lord BURGHLEY, and other members.—The resolutions were then agreed to.

METROPOLITAN TURNPIKE TOLLS.

Mr. BYNG moved an address to her Majesty to issue a Royal Commission to inquire and report as to the best means of affording to the inhabitants of the metropolitan districts within six miles of Charing-cross a relief from the abolition of turnpike-gates and toll-bars, similar to that which the Legislature has already granted, on the recommendation of a Royal Commission, to the metropolis of Ireland.—The motion was agreed to.

ELECTION COMMITTEES.

Mr. COLLINS obtained leave to bring in a bill to further limit and define the jurisdiction of Election Committees in cases of scrutiny, by extending the provisions of the act of the sixth year of her present Majesty.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes to one o'clock.

Wednesday, May 12th.

POOR-RATES (METROPOLIS) BILL.

Mr. AYRTON moved the second reading of this bill, which, he said, he threw on the President of the Poor Law Board.—Mr. SOTHERON ESTCOURT objected to the powers and functions of the Court of Justices who were to make the assessments. His dislike of the bill was, however, mainly based on the fatal blot that those who contributed the money were to have no share in its distribution, there being not one word as to the control of the expenditure. There was only one safe principle in dealing with this subject; which was, never to extend the area of liability beyond the limit which would give a representative body. He moved to defer the second reading for six months.—The bill was further opposed by Mr. BYNG, Sir BENJAMIN HALL, Mr. T. J. MILLER, and Mr. DUNCOMBE, and was supported by Mr. JOHN LOCKE.—General CODRINGTON would not have objected to this inquiry if it had been confined to one specific object.—Mr. AYRTON said that, after what had taken place, he would not press his motion to a division.—Mr. COLLINS recommended Mr. Ayrton to apply his mind to the subject of rating, not merely in the metropolis, but throughout the country. If he would consider whether the area of rating might not be extended, he would deserve the thanks of the country, and his next bill would be more comprehensive and better considered than the present.—The bill was then withdrawn.

PATENT LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. DUNCOMBE moved the second reading of this bill the object of which was to lessen the cost of patents by reducing the fees.—The motion was seconded by Sir JOHN SHELLEY.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL, after remarking that the bill seemed intended simply as a means of increasing the business of patent agents, said it would throw a charge upon the Consolidated Fund, and deprive the Patent Law Commissioners of a surplus which it was intended to appropriate to a museum, or place of deposit for models, and a library. He moved to defer the second reading for six months.—Mr. DUNCOMBE and Sir JOHN SHELLEY defended the bill; but after some further discussion, the motion was negative, and the bill was lost.

REFORMATORY SCHOOLS (IRELAND) BILL.

Mr. SERJEANT DEASY having moved the second reading of this bill, Lord NAAS said he did not intend to offer any objection to the second reading of a measure which extended to Ireland what had been already adopted in England.—A short discussion ensued, and the bill was read a second time.

Mr. HAMILTON obtained leave to bring in a bill to reduce the stamp duty on passports, and the House then adjourned at five o'clock.

Thursday, May 13th.

The HOUSE OF LORDS did not meet on Thursday.

SIR COLIN CAMPBELL.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. WYLD asked the

Secretary of the Board of Control if despatches had been recently received from Sir Colin Campbell, asking urgently for immediate reinforcements, and if the Court of Directors had declined for the present to provide transports for the troops, which the military authorities had reported to be ready for embarkation.—Mr. BAILEY thought the hon. member must perceive that questions such as these might lead to serious public inconvenience. On the present occasion, however, he was at liberty to state that no despatch had been received from Sir Colin Campbell asking for reinforcements, and no refusal had been made by the Court of Directors to furnish the transports required.

THE RESIGNATION OF LORD ELLENBOROUGH.

In answer to Lord A. VANE TEMPEST, Mr. DISRAELI said that the reason why Lord Ellenborough had taken the somewhat unusual, but not unconstitutional, course of resigning without previously consulting his colleagues was, that he knew very well that, if the question had been put to the other members of the Government, their great regard for the personal qualities of the noble Earl, and their admiration of his genius, would have induced them unanimously to request him to withdraw his resignation.

THE "PRIVATE LETTER" TO MR. VERNON SMITH.

In reply to a series of questions put by Mr. NEWDEGATE, Mr. VERNON SMITH said that he had received a "private letter" from Lord Canning, dated the 6th of March; that it contained a paragraph referring to a Proclamation which Lord Canning stated he intended to issue; and that it did not appear to him (Mr. Smith) that it was of such importance as to render it necessary that he should communicate it to Lord Ellenborough, who would have been justified, he thought, in considering it an impertinent communication. He added, that he had read the letter to Lord Palmerston, to whom it did not occur, any more than to himself, that the communication should be made to the Government. (The last part of this statement was received with ironical cheers.)—Sir W. M. FARQUHAR asked the right hon. gentleman whether he was not under the impression that the letter and a draft of the Proclamation were received by the same mail.—Mr. VERNON SMITH: "Of course."

THE OATHS BILL.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL brought up the report of the committee appointed to draw up the reasons for disagreeing from the amendments of the Lords on the Oaths Bill.—The reasons were agreed to by the House, after a protest from Mr. NEWDEGATE; and, upon the motion of Lord JOHN RUSSELL, a message was ordered to be sent to the Lords desiring a conference.

MASTERS AND WORKMEN BILL.

On the order for the second reading of this bill, moved by Mr. MACKINNON, Mr. WALPOLE (who considered the measure utterly unworkable) suggested that it should be withdrawn.—After a short discussion, Mr. MACKINNON consented to take that course.

JOINT-STOCK BANKING COMPANIES BILL.

Mr. HEADLAM moved the second reading of this bill, which was opposed by Mr. BLACK, who pointed out the danger of limiting the responsibility of bankers. He therefore moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months.—Mr. FENLATE seconded the amendment.—Mr. DRUMMOND observed that, if the fever for high rates of interest continued, there must be an enormous increase of paper money.—Sir R. W. CARDEN suggested that a new system of banking ought to be established. He should oppose the bill, which would inflict injustice on the banks established since Sir Robert Peel's Act.—The bill was further opposed by Sir W. DUNBAR, Mr. BOVILL, and Mr. T. H. GURNEY, but received the support of Sir G. C. LEWIS (who could not see any reason why banking companies should be excepted from the rule of limited liability, and who reminded the House that the bill was merely permissive, and not compulsory), Mr. MALINS, Mr. BAXTER, Mr. JOSEPH EWART, Mr. SKECHERDEL, Mr. SPOONER, and the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.—The last-mentioned observed that the bill put an end to a restriction which could not be maintained on any sound principle; and, although it might be true that limited liability had not yet been sufficiently tried, and that the Legislature might be compelled to retrace its steps, that was no reason why the trial should not be made with banks as with other commercial undertakings.—The amendment was then negatived, and the bill was read a second time.

CHURCH RATES ABOLITION BILL.

The House then went into committee upon this bill, the first clause of which, abolishing church rates, was carried, after a long debate, by 227 to 153.—The other clauses were agreed to.—Sir ARTHUR HALLAM ELTON moved the addition of two new clauses, one providing that any church rate made before the passing of the act may be collected in the same way as if the act had not passed; the other, empowering the churchwardens and parishioners to make a voluntary rate upon the occupiers of all property now liable to church rate, provided that no occupier who shall have refused or neglected to pay such voluntary rate shall be entitled to vote at any vestry summoned for church business for eighteen months.—The first clause was agreed to, and added to the bill; the other clause, after some discussion, was

withdrawn.—The bill then passed through the committee, and was ordered to be reported.

The committee on the PROPERTY QUALIFICATION Bill was postponed; Mr. LOCKE KING (who had charge of the bill) consenting to that course.

Mr. ARTHURTON obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the Common Law Procedure Act, 1854, with reference to the exercise of equitable jurisdiction.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes to one o'clock.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

The intelligence from India this week is little in amount, but it is important, as seeming to indicate the probability of a yet protracted contest. A hot weather campaign in Rohilcund is considered inevitable by the army under Sir Colin Campbell; and this will of course greatly try our men. The Commander-in-Chief, accompanied by a column under General Walpole, was to start from Lucknow to the new centre of rebellion on the 20th of April. On the 12th of that month, he had an interview with the Governor-General at Allahabad; and probably on that occasion the future course of operations was resolved on. On the 8th of April, a strong force marched for Bareilly, which, as well as Calpee, was still in the hands of the enemy; but, up to the last dates, no attack had been made on either of those places. The 13th Regiment, sent to relieve Azimgur, has had a severe fight with the insurgents, in which twenty-five casualties occurred. The result is not stated; so we fear it must be inferred that our men were compelled to retreat. It was expected, however, that Lugard's column, which left Lucknow on the 28th of March, would relieve Azimgur about the 20th of April. The rebels seem to be in force along the river near Futteh-pore and Benares; and large bodies of the enemy are said to be advancing on Jhansi from the east, with a view to getting in the rear of Sir Hugh Rose, who was still there on the 18th ult., having found it impracticable to advance on Calpee. The Kotah garrison, five thousand strong, were at large at that date; but they had no artillery. General Whitlock remained at Saugor, and General Roberts's force was preparing to go into quarters at Nusseerabad and Neemuch. Roberts writes that he is likely to encounter detachments of rebels in that district. The Nepalese are reported to be falling back within their own frontier, to protect it against the rebels; which, if it be true, is a fact of importance, as Sir Colin Campbell will thus be deprived of the services of a useful ally. At Umballah, the 4th Bengal Light Cavalry, one hundred and sixty strong, has been brought to a court-martial, and sixty have been sentenced to be hanged, while the remainder are to be transported for life.

Such are the dark parts of the picture presented by the last telegrams. The bright parts are that General Scaton encountered and defeated the rebels on the 7th ult., taking three guns; that Lucknow is perfectly tranquil, not a single armed man being visible there; that the Punjab and Scinde continue quiet; that order is being restored in the northern Mahratta country; and that at Calcutta imports meet with a better demand at advancing prices, the money-market being in a healthy condition. Trade at Bombay, however, has been less active; the money-market is tight; and the banks have raised their discount one per cent.

The bulk of the Oude army continues at Lucknow. General Roberts's force has orders not to break at Kotah immediately, as was at first proposed. A flying force under Major Evans has been pursuing the Cor rebels and refugees in Kindress. The hot weather is setting in everywhere, accompanied by the usual squalls and storms.

Lord Canning, at the last dates, was about to leave Allahabad for Calcutta; and General Lowe having started for England, Sir James Outram has taken his place at the Council Board.

"W. S. D." writes to the Times:—

"By the last Bombay mail I received a letter from a relation of mine in the 2nd battalion of the Rifle Brigade, dated 'Before Lucknow, March 31,' and consequently three days later than the letter of your special correspondent, wherein I find a piece of news not given by any of your correspondents—viz. that, on or near the seat of war in the East, hearing of the fall of Lucknow, the remainder of the 4th Irregular Cavalry, who were stationed at Umballah, mutinied, two hundred in number, but were all immediately taken and hung by General Windham. I cannot vouch for the truth of this fact; but, if it be true, your readers may like to know it, as it adds one more to the many inexplicable incidents of the present Sepoy revolt. My correspondent (who was himself engaged under General Windham in the three days' fight at Cawpore last November with the Gwalior mutineers) says he has not read a single correct account of that affair in any of the English newspapers, and that people in England know nothing

whatever of the real state of the disturbed districts of India."

THE REVOLT IN OUDE.

We published last week Lord Canning's Proclamation to the people of Oude, confiscating the property of all the landholders with the exception of six who have been faithful to us. That Proclamation, as the public were informed by members of the Government in both Houses of Parliament, was disapproved of by the Cabinet; and, on Friday week, Lord Ellenborough stated in the House of Lords that the document containing the disapproval would be laid on the table, with the omission of certain paragraphs which consisted of "reasoning on the subject," and the publication of which would be attended with "inconvenience to the public service." The paper was therefore produced, duly castigated. Such, however, is the want of concert between different branches of the Government, that this very despatch, without any omissions whatever, was published on Saturday, by order of the House of Commons. The document (the omitted portions of which are placed between brackets) runs thus:—

"The Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company to the Governor-General of India in Council.

"April 19, 1858.

"Our letter of the 24th of March will have put you in possession of our general views with respect to the treatment of the people in the event of the evacuation of Lucknow by the enemy.

"On the 12th inst., we received from you a copy of a letter, dated the 3rd of March, addressed by your secretary to the secretary to the Chief Commissioner in Oude, which letter enclosed a copy of the proclamation to be issued by the Chief Commissioner, as soon as the British troops should have command of the city of Lucknow, and conveyed instructions as to the manner in which he was to act with respect to different classes of persons in execution of the views of the Governor-General. The people of Oude will see only the proclamation. That authoritative expression of the will of the Government informs the people that six persons who are named as having been steadfast in their allegiance are henceforward the sole hereditary proprietors of the lands they held when Oude came under British rule, subject only to such moderate assessment as may be imposed upon them; that others in whose favour like claims may be established will have conferred upon them a proportionate measure of reward and honour; and that, with these exceptions, the proprietary right in the soil of the province is confiscated to the British Government. We cannot but express to you our apprehension that this decree, pronouncing the disinheritance of the people, will throw difficulties almost insurmountable in the way of the re-establishment of peace. We are under the impression that the war in Oude has derived much of its popular character from the rigorous manner in which, without regard to what the chief landholders had become accustomed to consider as their rights, the summary settlement had in a large portion of the province been carried out by your officers. The landholders of India are as much attached to the soil occupied by their ancestors, and are as sensitive with respect to the rights in the soil they deem themselves to possess, as the occupiers of land in any country of which we have a knowledge. Whatever may be your ultimate and undisclosed intentions, your proclamation will appear to deprive the great body of the people of all hope upon the subject most dear to them as individuals; while the substitution of our rule for that of their native sovereign has naturally excited against us whatever they may have of national feeling.

"We cannot but in justice consider that those who resist our authority in Oude are under very different circumstances from those who have acted against us in provinces which have been long under our government. We dethroned the King of Oude, and took possession of his kingdom, by virtue of a treaty which had been subsequently modified by another treaty, under which, had it been held to be in force, the course we adopted could not have been lawfully pursued; but we held that it was not in force; although the fact of its not having been ratified in England, as regarded the provision on which we rely for our justification, had not been previously made known to the King of Oude. That sovereign and his ancestors had been uniformly faithful to their treaty engagements with us, however ill they may have governed their subjects. They had more than once assisted us in our difficulties, and not a suspicion had ever been entertained of any hostile disposition on their part towards our Government. Suddenly, the people saw their King taken from among them, and our administration substituted for his, which, however bad, was at least native; and this sudden change of government was immediately followed by a summary settlement of the revenue, which, in a very considerable portion of the province, deprived the most influential landholders of what they deemed to be their property—of what certainly had long given wealth, and distinction and power to their families."

"We must admit that, under the circumstances, the hostilities which have been carried on in Oude have rather the character of legitimate war than that of re-

bellion, and that the people of Oude should rather be regarded with indulgent consideration than made the objects of a penalty exceeding in extent and in severity almost any which has been recorded in history as inflicted upon a subdued nation. Other conquerors, when they have succeeded in overcoming resistance, have excepted a few persons as still deserving of punishment, but have, with a generous policy, extended their clemency to the great body of the people. You have acted upon a different principle: you have reserved a few as deserving of special favour, and you have struck, with what they will feel as the severest of punishment, the mass of the inhabitants of the country. We cannot but think that the precedents from which you have departed will appear to have been conceived in a spirit of wisdom superior to that which appears in the precedent you have made. We desire that you will mitigate in practice the stringent severity of the decree of confiscation you have issued against the landholders of Oude. We desire to see British authority in India rest upon the willing obedience of a contented people. There cannot be contentment where there is general confiscation. Government cannot long be maintained by any force in a country where the whole people is rendered hostile by a sense of wrong, and, if it were possible so to maintain it, it would not be a consummation to be desired."

Lord Canning's Proclamation was accompanied by a letter from the Governor-General to the Chief Commissioner of Oude, dated March 3rd, and explaining the manner in which the directions are to be carried into effect. The Proclamation is here described as having reference to the chiefs and inhabitants of Oude only, and not to the Sepoys. The document proceeds:—

"The Governor-General has not considered it desirable that this proclamation should appear until the capital is either actually in our hands, or lying at our mercy. He believes that any proclamation put forth in Oude in a liberal and forgiving spirit would be open to misconstruction and capable of perversion, if not preceded by a manifestation of our power; and that this would be especially the case at Lucknow, which, although it has recently been the scene of unparalleled heroism and daring, and one of the most brilliant and successful feats of arms which British India has ever witnessed, is still sedulously represented by the rebels as being beyond our power to take or to hold."

"It will be for the Chief Commissioner, in communication with his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, to determine the moment at which the proclamation shall be published, and the manner of disseminating it through the province; as also the mode in which those who may surrender themselves under it shall be immediately and for the present dealt with. It is clear that the same treatment will not be applicable to all who may present themselves. Among these there may be some who have been continuously in arms against the Government and have shown inveterate opposition to the last, but who are free from the suspicion of having put to death or injured Europeans who fell in their way. To these men their lives are guaranteed, and their honour; that is, in native acceptance, they will neither be transported across the sea nor placed in prison. Probably, the most easy and effectual way of disposing of them, in the first instance, will be to require that they shall reside in Lucknow under surveillance, and in charge of an officer appointed for that purpose. Their ultimate condition and place of residence may remain to be determined hereafter, when the Chief Commissioner shall be able to report fully to the Governor-General upon the individual character and past conduct of each."

"There will be others, who, although they have taken up arms against the Government, have done so less heartily, and upon whom, for other causes, the Chief Commissioner may not see reason to put restraint. These, after surrendering their arms, might be allowed to go to their homes, with such security for their peaceable conduct as the Chief Commissioner may think proper to require. One obvious security will be that of making it clearly understood by them, that the amount of favour which they shall hereafter receive, and the condition in which they shall be re-established, will be in part dependent upon their conduct after dismissal."

"There will probably be a third class, less compromised by acts of past hostility to the Government, in whom the Chief Commissioner may see reason to repose enough of confidence to justify their services being at once enlisted on the side of order, towards the maintenance of which in their respective districts they might be called upon to organize a temporary police."

"The foregoing remarks apply to the talookdars and chiefs of the province. As regards their followers who may make submission with them, these, from their numbers, must of necessity be dismissed to their homes. But, before this is done, their names and places of residence should be registered, and they should receive a warning that any disturbance of the peace or resistance of authority which may occur in their neighbourhood will be visited, not upon the individual offenders alone, but by heavy fines upon the villages."

"I am to observe that the Governor-General wishes the Chief Commissioner to consider what has been above written as suggestions rather than instructions."

The Governor-General does not intend that any

overture shall at present be made to the mutineers. But, as the voluntary surrender of some of these is contemplated, certain directions are given as to the mode of dealing with such cases:—

"The sole promise which can be given to any mutineer is that his life shall be spared; and this promise must not be made if the man belongs to a regiment which has murdered its officers, or if there be other *prima facie* reason to suppose that he had been implicated in any specially atrocious crime. Beyond the guarantee of life to those who, not coming within the above-stated exception, shall surrender themselves, the Governor-General cannot sanction the giving of any specific pledge. Voluntary submission will be counted in mitigation of punishment; but nothing must be said to those who so submit themselves, which shall bar the Government from awarding to each such measure of secondary punishment as in its justice it may deem fitting."

A Court of Directors of the East India Company was held (according to the *Globe*, for the meeting was not public) on Monday, when a vote strongly expressing the confidence of the Court in Lord Canning was passed—it is said, unanimously.

ARRIVAL OF PASSENGERS FROM INDIA.

The Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamship Colombo, Captain J. S. Field, arrived at Southampton on Monday morning, with the Calcutta and China mails. We read in the daily papers:—

"On the arrival of the Colombo in dock, the Mayor (Mr. Alderman John White), and other members of the Local Relief Committee, went on board as usual, and ten several cases of persons requiring relief were presented to their notice. A committee of passengers had been formed on board during the voyage, which had inquired into each case, and a statement of the respective circumstances of the persons in question was drawn up and handed to the local authorities, signed by Captain Field, in the name of the Colombo Committee. One case was that of a lady who had been a schoolmistress in Lucknow for twenty-five years, and another was a major who had lost 75,000 rupees by the mutiny. The local committee awarded to each of the ten persons 10*l.*, and will forward the particulars of their cases to the Metropolitan Committee for the dispensation of the Indian Mutiny Fund."

MR. LAYARD ON INDIA.

The promised lecture by Mr. Layard on the subject of his Indian experiences was delivered on Tuesday evening at St. James's Hall, Piccadilly. The hall was crowded; many members of Parliament were present, and Lord Bury occupied the chair.

Mr. Layard commenced by expressing his belief that the people of England did not know the truth with respect to the Indian revolt; that, in fact, the truth had been studiously concealed from them. When persons, at the commencement of the rebellion, asked what had caused it, they were told that the Indians had risen against us simply because we had treated them with too much kindness. However, he had never heard of nations rising for such a reason, and he looked upon calamities of this nature as great retributions of Providence. He had been to India, and had judged for himself; but he did not wish to cast any blame on the gentlemen of the civil service in our Eastern empire. He believed a more noble race of men did not exist; but he blamed a system. While the fight for the government of India is going on at home, we are running the risk of having nothing at all to govern. He had spoken with many natives in India on the subject of the origin of the mutiny, and they said that God had deserted us because we had become unjust, oppressive, and immoral. From the north of India to the south, the revolt extended; everywhere the natives are opposed to our rule. Holkar and Scindia had, it was true, been faithful to us; but their subjects had risen against us. The soldiery of India come from the people, and are not divided from them. The rebellion, therefore, was the act of the people. Mr. Layard believed that the question of the greased cartridges had been the pretext for the revolt; the Persian war the opportunity; annexation the chief cause. When he was at Benares, he saw a number of essays written by pupils at school, the subject being the origin of the mutiny, and it was singular that every one of them assigned, as among the principal causes, the annexation policy of England, and the treatment of the natives. The annexation of Oude was in direct violation of a treaty. As in the case of Russia, with regard to Poland, Oude would hang like a millstone about the neck of England. We had also behaved with great injustice in the "ceded districts" of the Deccan, Nagpore, &c. It was said that the natives preferred our rule to that of their own princes; but had the people of a single independent state risen against their ruler? We had gone on annexing till we had a territory so large that we could not govern it. We had confiscated the estates of landowners and of the native religious bodies; and our police and judicial systems had been marked by terrible abuses. Mr. Layard said he had perused documents of undoubted authority, in which the use of torture, oppression, and bribery was described as rife among the native population. Having read various papers setting forth

these facts, he observed that nearly every one of the statements had been corroborated by Mr. Halliday, the Deputy-Governor of Bengal, almost the highest authority there, in a minute he prepared some year and a half ago. Mr. Layard continued:—"He had received, within the last few hours, a letter from an English gentleman, who was examined before the committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into the system of torture in the Madras Presidency, and he would trouble them only with a short extract. 'You ask me,' said the writer, 'whether anything has been done to put an end to this horrible torture. I am sorry to say nothing whatever has been done in the matter.'"

Organized bands of bludgeon-men are kept for the affrays which constantly occur; and these men prevent the proper administration of justice. Perjury is constantly committed in the law courts, and it is difficult to obtain redress for the natives. Indeed, perjury has become the rule instead of the exception; and justice is generally defeated. This state of things had been greatly aggravated within the last twenty years—in fact, since the reckless policy of annexation had begun. Bribery is constantly resorted to in the law courts, and the excessive pressure of taxation has destroyed the native gentry, so that "only two things at present exist—Government and poverty." Mr. Layard denied that the people of India are ungrateful. During the mutiny, natives had often imperilled themselves to save Europeans who had behaved kindly to them. "Neither was it true, as had been stated, that the more the natives mix in English society, the more ferocious they become. Nana Sahib is a low vulgar Brahmin, cannot speak a single word of English, and never mixes with our people." The system of teaching in India has not been such as to suit the character of the race. Another cause of the rebellion was our interference with the religion and customs of the natives, and the abolition of the law of adoption. Mr. Layard did not believe that missionary exertions had done the least injury. On the contrary, he had always found the missionaries respected by the natives; and a Scotch minister had told him that they would go on well enough if the Government would leave them alone. One of the subjects of complaint on the part of the natives was Lord Dalhousie's breach of faith with regard to the five per cent. loan. Even Nana Sahib had offered to save all who fell into his power except those who had been connected with Lord Dalhousie. Referring to the alleged atrocities, Mr. Layard said he had been unable to authenticate a single case, and that Mr. Russell, of the *Times*, had added his testimony to the same effect. That gentleman had also said it was certain that the five hundred Christians in Lucknow had not been molested. On the other hand, however, our soldiers (as he knew from personal experience) had, on several occasions, acted with the utmost savagery to the natives; and he appealed to his gallant countrymen in India, to the men of England, to his countrywomen, and to the Members of Parliament he saw around him, to oppose this spirit of revenge. "If the people of England were ruled as the people of India had been ruled, government would be impossible. It had been stated that nothing less than forty thousand victims would satisfy England. Surely, that was not the sentiment of a Christian people." The King of Delhi had been subject to the grossest indignities; and the children of his women had been killed or separated from their mothers. "He would not touch on the subjects of the day which had been made the mere questions of party. The treatment the Indian question is receiving in the House of Commons is unworthy the British Legislature. For God's sake, let us forget party, when the welfare of millions is at stake. No doubt we should reconquer India. It was impossible for the native soldiers to hold out against the skill of our Generals and the bravery of our troops. But in conquering them we must do them justice. And, if ever we lost India, it would be no disgrace to us to leave it prosperous and happy, and (if we could effect it by our example) he would add, Christian."

Mr. Layard sat down amidst much applause, and loud cries were raised for Mr. Bright (who was present); but Mr. Milner Gibson informed the meeting that the member for Birmingham had been interdicted, by his medical advisers, from addressing popular assemblies for the present.

A vote of thanks was then moved by Lord Ebury to Mr. Layard, seconded by Mr. Milner Gibson, and carried unanimously; and, after the usual vote to the chairman, the meeting separated.

MR. COMMISSIONER YEH.

An interesting portrait of the late Commissioner at Canton is given by the Chinese correspondent of the *Times*. We subjoin one or two passages of his elaborate letter, which is dated from Calcutta river, whither he had followed Yeh. He writes:—

"I have been shut up for many days with the great Chinaman of the present day. Yeh must be hereafter one of the men of Chinese history. He is the second

man of the empire. He has exercised high offices for more than a quarter of a century. He has ruled with an absolute despotism 30,000,000 of souls. His sentences have been tortures, his lightest words have been death. He has been to China what Wentworth was to Ireland, and wished to be to England. His policy has been 'thorough,' and he has been able to work it out in a reign of terror unrestrained. He tells with a coarse laugh that he has himself sentenced to death 100,000 of his countrymen and countrywomen, and he boasts that that estimate must be quadrupled if we take into account the towns and villages destroyed by his orders.

"In his personal appearance, Yeh is a very stout and rather tall man, about five feet eleven, with the long Chinese moustache and beard, a remarkably receding forehead, a skull in which what the phrenologists call 'veneration' is much developed; a certain degree of stupidity behind the ear, and a moderate development of the back head. Shorn nearly to the crown, and very thinly covered with hair in that part where the Chinese usually cultivate their hair, our Mandarin offers every facility for craniological examination. His tail is very curly, very short, and very thin. The smallest porker in China has a better tail than her highest Mandarin.

"His face is heavy. There is more chin than you usually see in a Chinaman—more jaw and jaw, indicative of will and obstinacy. The nose is long and flat, the nostrils forming one side of a very obtuse angle. Seen in profile the nose is very remarkable and very ugly; in the front face this, the most simial expression of the man's countenance, is mitigated. The eye—that round slit Mongolian eye—is the most expressive feature of the man who is sitting opposite to me, and looking rather suspiciously at me as I am now writing. In his ordinary mood there is only a look of shrewdness and quick cunning in this, the only mobile feature of his face; but I have seen him in the turning moments of his life, when those eyeballs glared with terror and with fury. He has a large protruding mouth, thick lips, and very black teeth, for, as he remarks, 'it never has been the custom of his family to use a toothbrush.'

"At first, Yeh behaved with insolent defiance; but, finding that we had no deadly intentions towards him, and only designed to keep him a prisoner, he relaxed.

"He gave up playing the high Mandarin, conversed with affability upon indifferent subjects, preferred a request for a daily ration of six pounds of fresh pork, presented a portion of his stock of oranges to the Wardroom mess, and begged to be allowed to send for a full supply of Chinese tobacco.

"Up to this time, the only occasions upon which he manifested any vivacity were upon discussions as to his food. Visitors annoyed him. He was, or pretended to be, much shocked at the dress of an English lady. He kept his eyes studiously turned from her, and remarked afterwards that her throat was not covered. Mr. Alabaster (the interpreter appointed to attend him) showed him some portraits in an *Illustrated News* of ladies in ball-room dress. Yeh was scandalized.

"Yeh is in his private life a very respectable Chinaman. He is entirely free from all suspicion of those detestable habits common to his countrymen, and far which even the virtuous Keying was but too notorious. He smokes no opium; his ordinary drink is only warm tea; he uses samshu oil as a medicine. He eats twice a day of four or five succulent dishes, and drinks nothing while eating. His devotions consist of sitting in the posture of a Chinese idol, his legs crossed and his face to the east. He remains in an abstracted state for about ten minutes, and the act of devotion is accomplished. When he first came on board he retired into this contemplative state several times a day. He afterwards became much more restless, and once a day appeared to us. He said, if he were praying he should turn to the west; but he is not praying. He turns to the east because the east is the 'seng chi,' the principle of life, as the west is the principle of death. He says the four cardinal points agree with the four seasons—the north is the winter, the south is the summer, the east is the spring, and the west is the autumn.

"In the practice of that virtue which we Westerners are glad to rank next to godliness Yeh is certainly not conspicuous. His daily ablutions consist of a slight rubbing of the face with a towel moistened in hot water. He has a horror of fresh air, and, while in Chinese waters, never willingly went on deck. He loved to have the ports closed and the skylights down.

"Yeh sleeps in a recess in the captain's cabin, which he prefers to a separate sleeping berth. He goes to bed about eight o'clock, and while we are reading or writing, reclining close, he sleeps the sleep of infancy. This man-killer, after slaying his hundred thousand human beings, enjoys sweeter sleep than an innocent London alderman after a turtle dinner. So false are traditions; so false are the remorseful scenes of Greek and Roman and English tragedies."

IRELAND.

THE BELFAST TEA FRAUDS.—The Customs authorities have served notices of civil action on almost every person whose name, as a buyer, stood in the books of

John James Moore. To each of these notices an "appearance" in the Court of Revenue Exchequer must be entered; and the tea-dealers will be put to great expense, no portion of which can be recovered from the Crown, even in the event of its defeat.

EMIGRATION FROM THE NORTH.—The bark *Flores Mino*, with one hundred and sixty emigrants for Quebec, obtained her final clearance from the Government officers at the port of Belfast last Saturday. This spring, the emigration tide seems to be chiefly from the northern counties.

EXECUTIONS.—The two brothers Cormack, convicted at the last assizes of the murder of Mr. John Ellis, were hanged at Nenagh on Tuesday. Great exertions were made on behalf of the convicts, on account of the chief witness against them being an informer of villainous character, and one who had participated in the murder; but all was in vain. The wretched men to the very last moment of their existence persisted in their innocence of the crime. When Daniel Cormack came in sight of the people, he raised his voice, and said, in a loud tone:—"Lord, have mercy on me! for you, Jesus, know that I neither had hand, set, nor part in that for which I am about to die. Good people, pray for me. Lord, have mercy on me!" The brother made a similar declaration. In Galway, on the same day, Patrick Leyden was executed for the murder of his wife. He fully confessed his guilt.

THE LIMERICK VACANCY.—Mr. John Ball is in the field for Limerick, and has the powerful support of Bishop Ryan, a popular Roman Catholic prelate.

THE ORIENT.

CHINA.

ALL continues quiet at Canton. Lord Elgin, by the last advices, had reached Ningpo; and, on the 21st of March, Admiral Seymour left Hong-Kong—it is believed for Shanghai. General Straubenzees has returned to Canton. The import market at Shanghai has been brisk.

AMERICA.

THE Deficiency Bill has passed the Senate, and the Kansas Conference Committee's report has been adopted by both Houses. The Secretary of the Navy has addressed a communication to the Secretary of State, requesting him to express to the British Minister how highly the Department appreciates the kind offices of her Majesty's naval officers in the case of the frigate *Susquehanna*, the crew of which have suffered greatly from yellow fever.

M. Kallersburger, the Swiss Consul at San Francisco, and member of a very respectable firm, is missing. He has lost large sums in speculation.

From Granada we hear of the ratification of the Cass-Frizzari Treaty. The difficulties with the United States, respecting the riots at Panama two years ago, have been settled; the isthmus is placed under the sole control of the United States; and American citizens are invested with very great privileges. Castello has been appointed President of Salvador.

The contract between the American Atlantic and Pacific Ship Canal Company and the State of Nicaragua, giving the exclusive grant of the transit route to that company, made on the 19th of June, 1850, has been ratified by the Legislature of Nicaragua, and received the Presidential signature. A conditional contract between the State of Nicaragua and the company has also been ratified by the Legislature and sanctioned by the Executive. General Houston's resolution relative to the establishment of a protectorate over Mexico has been laid on the table of the Senate, after some little debate.

Money at New York has become exceedingly abundant.

Nothing very important is announced in connexion with the Mexican revolution, or civil war. The President Juarez and his Cabinet were, on the 11th of April, taken on board the steamer *John L. Stephens* at Mazatlán, and conveyed thence to New Orleans, whence Juarez intended to proceed to Vera Cruz, where his Government is now established under Zamora. The rebel leader Gandara has been defeated and killed. General Pasquiera engaged him at Jacinto, when he was routed and slain, with one hundred of his men.

The state of Buenos Ayres is at present apparently tranquil. Its army is still on the north-west frontier in pursuit of the hostile Indians, who have been obliged to retire into the desert with some loss. The headquarters are at Salinas, which was until very lately occupied and entirely surrounded by the Indian tribes. The elections for the House of Representatives took place on the 30th of March last. The result was wholly in favour of the present Government, not a single deputy of the Opposition party having offered himself as a candidate. The yellow fever was raging in the port.

The Washington correspondent of the *New York Herald* says that the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty will be abrogated. Lord Napier not having received any instructions from the Derby Administration on the subject, he will not attempt to reopen negotiations for the present.

A Mr. F. Loba, who has just made his escape from

Salt Lake City, gives it as his opinion that the Mormons will not fight the United States troops, after all their boasting, but will make off, as they are very ill provided with cannon and military stores, and could only bring about 3500 fighting men into the field. He also states that the condition of the women is deplorable, and that they would gladly welcome the arrival of a force which would relieve them.

A dinner was given to Charles Mackay, on the 26th ult., at the Rossini House, Toronto. There was a large attendance of members of Parliament and others.

The steamer *Ocean Spray* has been burnt in the Mississippi, about five miles from St. Louis. At the time she took fire, she was racing with the *Haanibal City*; and, to keep up the highest possible speed, orders were given to throw turpentine on the fire. Previously to this, resin had been thrown on; and, a barrel of turpentine being produced, the head was stove in, and the fluid was dipped out with a bucket, and sprinkled over the coals. Some sticks of wood were also dipped into the turpentine, and placed between the barrel and the fire. Shortly afterwards, a live coal fell on the wood, and the whole was soon in a furious blaze. Water was thrown upon it; but the flames were thus only driven towards the turpentine barrel, which soon caught fire. The mate ordered that the barrel should be thrown overboard; but, before this could be done, it was upset, and the fiery flood at once poured all over the deck. The vessel made for the shore, and the passengers frantically leaped overboard; but about twenty appear to have been killed.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

That narrow and unchristian feeling is to be condemned which regards with jealousy the progress of foreign nations, and cares for no portion of the human race but that to which itself belongs.

DE ARNOLD.

FRANCE.

The commission appointed by the Corps Législatif to report on the bill presented by the Government, approving the convention concluded between the Treasury and the city of Paris for the opening and completion of various new streets, has concluded its labours. The report commences by setting forth the objections entertained by the commission to the large expenses proposed to be incurred, and to the destruction of so many houses occupied by the working classes. The answers of the Council of State are also given. It appears that the commission insisted on a reduction of 45,000,000 francs on the sum required by the State for public works in Paris, and that this amendment has been accepted by the Council of State.

"In the debate in the Corps Législatif on the 8th," says the *Daily News* Paris correspondent, "objections against the Paris Improvements Bill were urged with considerable force and spirit by several members. The bill was voted by 180 suffrages against 45, and, the session being over, the House separated with the customary cries of 'Vive l'Empereur!' The minority in a House consisting, with four exceptions, of Government nominees, is strikingly large. One hundred and sixty-five bills have been presented during the present session, of which one hundred and sixty-one have been voted. The four which stand over till next session are the bills relative to the conversion of woodlands into arable or private estates, the customs laws, the manufacture of percussion caps, and the law of patents for inventions."

An interesting discussion took place on Friday week in the Corps Législatif, on the bill having reference to titles of nobility. The tribunes were quite full, and many ladies with tickets were waiting in the lobbies, unable to obtain seats. Among the opponents to the measure were M. Belmontet, M. Taillefer, M. Lelut, M. Legrand, and M. Emile Ollivier. The last named made an admirable and most eloquent speech. He said:—"Suppose, gentlemen, that the Government were to present to you a bill enacting that a son should be responsible for the crime of his father; that if the faults of a guilty party had not been expiated in his lifetime, his memory should be branded, and the property of his heirs should be forfeited; in such a case, would not the House unanimously protest against the proposal? Would you not say, we will not go backwards—we will not revive the abuses of the old monarchy, which the Revolution of '89 swept away—we are the children of that Revolution. And yet, what is now proposed to you is in principle precisely the same. If punishments are not hereditary, rewards ought not to be either." These words provoked an explosion of murmurs. When silence was restored, M. Ollivier proceeded:—"Gentlemen, if there be in this assembly but a small leaven of justice and good feeling, you will not only hear me, but you will take the trouble to understand what I wish to say. You love, you adore the constitution; it is the theme of all your speeches; the principles of 1789 are inscribed on the frontispiece of the constitution. Are they there for ornament only, or is it meant that they shall be acted upon? If the latter, allow me to tell you that in '89 the principle of personal responsibility was substituted for the old hereditary principle. The Convention first applied the new principle by declaring that the children of criminals condemned to death were children of the state. Here-

ditary distinctions are, therefore, contrary to the principles of '89, which constitute the grandeur of France, and to which principles we owe it that I am here to defend them, and that you are here to interrupt me; for, thanks to them, we yet enjoy a sort of parliamentary liberty. These principles are deeply rooted in the popular mind. The people are proud of them. And it is at a moment when there is so little liberty; when so much distress prevails, in the midst of a commercial crisis; when the country is uneasy, agitated, that you propose to crush its traditions, to destroy that ideal which it cherishes and which enables it to endure its trials with patience in the hope of better times, and to break with the great, the holy, the blessed Revolution. To exhumate such trivialities under existing circumstances were to imitate the conduct of the Greeks, who lost precious time in vain discussion when the barbarians were at their doors. I can understand that a family desires to preserve its traditions. That a Montmorency should remember with pride the virtues of his ancestors, and should oppose any usurpation of his name, is not only natural but just. He has a right to cling to that name as much as I do to that of my father, which I would not change for any other in the world, nor for any title of duke or baron. But let not the private and personal rights of families be mingled with state distinctions. I care not whether the law may be useful to you or not; but I insist on this—that the Government has no right to repudiate the principle to which it owes its existence. You want to bring us back to principles anterior to the Revolution. It is in the name of the Revolution, and in the name of the people, which dates from '89, that I vote against the bill." M. Baroche, President of the Council of State, replied to this speech, and accused M. Ollivier of attacking the basis of society and of family ties. Nothing, he said, could be more dangerous to the regular development of liberty than "such deplorably retrospective expressions as those which the Chamber had just heard." At the close of the discussion, the bill was adopted by 211 to 23.

The Abbé Dumage, parish priest of Tavaux, in the department of the Aisne, has communicated to the *Semaine du Vermandois* an account of a miracle which he and some children saw in the cemetery of Tavaux. "Floating in the direction of the sun, but much higher, a cross appeared, about thirty feet long, in a horizontal position." The tree of the cross was white; the arms were rainbow-hued, and blue prevailed towards the centre. Truly, a very pretty miracle.

The re-election for the Fifth Circumscription has terminated in a large majority for the Opposition candidate, M. Picard. The numbers were—Picard, 10,323; Eck, 8976. Thus, M. Eck, the Government candidate, who, at the first election, had a majority, but not a sufficiently large one to satisfy the law, now finds himself quietly shelved by his opponent.

It has been again resolved that the Mediterranean squadron is to take part in the review at Cherbourg, so that a large portion of the French fleet will be assembled there.

The *Moniteur* of Wednesday has an article objecting to the hostile attitude assumed by Turkey towards Montenegro, and denying that the former has any right of suzerainty over the latter. For nearly a century, says the writer, Montenegro has been closed to the Turks. The article proceeds:—"The Government of the Emperor" (after the breaking out of hostilities) "asked the other Powers to concert measures to prevent a conflict which otherwise seemed inevitable between the Montenegrins and the Turks. These advances were favourably received, and England immediately made a proposition, accepted at Paris, according to which the great Powers were to appoint Commissioners, who, in concert with an Ottoman Plenipotentiary, were to draw up a territorial settlement, having for basis the *status quo* existing at the time of the Congress of Paris." The *Moniteur* hopes and believes that France and England will be supported by Russia, Austria, and the other Powers.

SPAIN.

The Cortes have been suddenly and definitively prorogued. Some of the Ministers have tendered their resignation. The Government has dismissed two-and-twenty corregidores.

The *Madrid Gazette* of the 7th contains the royal decrees which accept the resignation of Señor Diaz, Minister of the Interior, and suspend the sittings of the Cortes.

TURKEY.

The Porte has just transmitted a note to each of the Legations, in which we read:—"From information that has come to the knowledge of the Sublime Porte, it appears that Ottoman subjects, by betaking themselves to foreign countries, find means to procure from the authorities of these last certain documents, with which they return home. The Consulates then claim to protect them, and occasionally even seek to release from their Ottoman allegiance individuals who have never left the country, by giving them papers, under the form of passports and patents of protection. . . . If it were even possible to permit subjects of the Porte, through a preference for the governmental system of another State, to forsake their own country and their own allegiance, grave inconveniences would result from permitting indi-

viduals who, after having so renounced subjection to a Power, return to reside in the territory of that Power with other rights, and raising pretensions to a foreign nationality, to evade in this manner all the obligations inherent in their quality of subjects. I am convinced that your Excellency, guided by the justice which distinguishes you, will perceive the mischievous consequences of such a toleration. The Sublime Porte, therefore, feels compelled to transmit to its agents orders enjoining them to reject all such pretensions when raised by subjects of the Porte, and to hold all such bound to fulfil their legal duties as subjects; and as to those who may persist in adhering to their change of nationality, seeing that such conduct does injury to the dignity of the imperial Government, which has the right to expel them altogether from its territory, it will be the duty of the aforesaid officials to compel the individuals in question to leave their homes and the country, conformably to the laws of the empire." This document is said to have been necessitated by some peculiarly unwarrantable act on the part of the Russian representative, though the Ministers of other countries are also greatly to blame.

A few slight shocks of earthquake have been felt at Constantinople and Broussa.

Serious disturbances have broken out in that part of the mountains of Judea which extends from Hebron to Beit-Gebrin and Ramleh. They were caused by some Scheiks, headed by Mustapha Abou Goch—a man who, though he is described as little better than a brigand, possesses great power. He has lately had a combat with another brigand, in which sixty men were killed, and upwards of one hundred were wounded. A tribe of Thys took advantage of this state of things to pillage several villages. By the assistance of the French consul, the governor of Palestine (who had not sufficient force to quell the disturbances) induced the combatants to consent to a truce of sixty days.

ITALY.

The state trials at Naples were resumed on the 30th ult., and were again postponed for a fortnight. Three of the unhappy prisoners have been subjected to the lash for singing a patriotic song. One of these men, on being brought up again on the resumption of the trial, thus denounced his torturers in open court:—"Signor President, on my own behalf and that of my two companions, Nasti and Amoroso, I loudly protest against the unmerited and barbarous punishment of *legnate*, which a few days since we were compelled to suffer. I know that this is a useless protest, but I am driven to make it by the desire of denouncing to the whole civilized world the barbarities which, in the nineteenth century, are committed by this Government; and I demand that my protest be entered on the *verbale* of this day's proceedings."

RUSSIA.

The revolts of the peasantry in various parts of Russia continue, and have extended to remote localities; but they are very easily put down.

Russia has made to Prussia an offer of further reductions in her Customs tariff, if Prussia will abolish the transit dues levied on Russian goods.

AUSTRIA.

Count Valentine Esterhazy has resigned his post as Austrian Ambassador at St. Petersburg. He is shortly expected at Vienna. His probable successor is Prince Richard Metternich. The latter, with the Princess, his wife, and Baron and Baroness von Wydenbruck, had the honour of dining at the imperial table a few days since. Baron von Wydenbruck will shortly receive a new diplomatic appointment.

Fuad Pacha has been staying at Vienna for a day or two, and has had interviews with Count Buol, Baron Hubner, and the whole of the diplomatic corps. He has since returned to Paris.

GERMANY.

The Saxon representatives have just rejected the whole of the war estimates of the kingdom, on account of their being, as they conceive, far too high.

MONTENEGRO.

There has been a battle at Grahovo between the Turks on one side and the Montenegrins and the Herzegovine rayahs on the other. The latter had fifty men killed and seventy wounded. The loss of the Turks is not known. Grahovo was burnt by its inhabitants.

Bagnani has been occupied by about 2000 Turkish troops. The inhabitants have fled, some to Budine di Niksch, others to Grahovo. It is stated that the Montenegrins have taken measures to put their frontiers in that direction in a state of defence.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

A STRAY cow on the line of the London and North-Western Railway caused a frightful accident on Monday near Nunaton. The driver saw the cow in advance, and raised a shrill alarm with his whistle, hoping to frighten the animal off the line; at the same time, the breaks were vigorously applied, but to no effect. The cow, on seeing the train advancing, coolly turned her back to it, and stood quietly between the rails. In another moment, the train was upon her, and she was crushed to pieces. The hide got wrapped round the wheels, and the bones were strewn along the line; the

result of which was that, while the engine and tender remained on the rails, the carriages were jerked off and smashed, in many instances, to fragments. Three of the passengers were killed, and six more or less injured. The guard had a remarkable escape, being rolled down an embankment on the break-down, with scarcely a hurt; but the conductor of the train sustained a contusion of the leg. One of the gentlemen who was killed is said to have exclaimed, immediately before he breathed his last, "I'm insured." This was the Rev. Thomas Miller, a Presbyterian clergyman residing at Belfast. An inquest was opened on Tuesday, and adjourned to the following day.

A frightful accident has occurred at Lenton, a village one mile from Nottingham. A boy, named Rowland, seven years of age, went to the Old Abbey Flour Mill, occupied by Mr. Kirchin, and became entangled by a chain connected with the machinery, which being at work at the time, dragged the lad to the ceiling, pressing his throat so severely that, when extricated, the head fell from the body; both thighs also were broken. The boy had been frequently cautioned not to enter the mill.

Two labouring men were run down last Saturday night, while intoxicated, by a train on the Monmouthshire Company's line at Risca. Both were killed on the spot.

STATE OF TRADE.

THE market for yarns and cloths was quieter during the week ending last Saturday, spinners and manufacturers having advanced their terms in consequence of the increasing dearthness of cotton. Still, business is in a more flourishing state than it was in some weeks ago. There are further indications of improvement in the iron trade of South Staffordshire; but the demand for finished iron is still far below the average usual at this time of year. Both the home and foreign market are dull; but large orders are anticipated from the East Indies and other parts of the world. Another dispute as to wages has occurred in the South Staffordshire district. The stock lockmakers of Wolverhampton and neighbourhood have refused to submit to a reduction of from 3s. to 4s. per dozen, as proposed by their masters. At Wolverhampton, Bradford, Norwich, and Dublin, an improved state of business may be noted; but dulness continues to prevail at the other chief seats of industry.

The general business of the port of London continued active during the week ending last Saturday, the arrivals of corn being unusually large. The number of ships reported inward was 275, including 122 with grain, flour, &c., 25 with cargoes of sugar, and three from China with 29,913 packages of tea, and 541 bales of silk. The number cleared outward was 198, including 23 in ballast, and those on the berth loading for the Australian colonies amount to 73.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

BURGLARIES IN THE NORTH-EAST TOWNS.—A great many burglaries have been committed within the last fortnight in Shields and the neighbouring towns, and two or three men are in custody. The alarm produced has been such that many persons have taken to keeping loaded pistols in their houses—a fact which has led to an accident near South Shields. A Miss Wain, the daughter of a county magistrate residing at West Beldon, found a pistol in one of the bedrooms, and attempted to discharge it out of the window, but it missed fire. Thinking it was not loaded, she put a cap on it, ran down stairs, and presented it at a Miss Niece, exclaiming, "Your money or your life!" Miss Niece bent her head on one side, and thus saved her life, for the pistol went off, and the contents were lodged in her shoulder. Happily, however, she is not in any danger.

MURDER NEAR COVENTRY.—Joseph Owen, a labouring man at Rytton, near Coventry, has been found murdered in the high road near a public-house. Two men are in custody, under suspicion.

STABBING ON THE HIGH SEAS.—George Reed, a Swedish seaman on board an American ship, has been charged before the Liverpool magistrate with stabbing the mate of the vessel while on a voyage to this country from New Orleans. One morning, the second mate called Reed to his duty, when some dispute arose between the two men, in the course of which, Reed ran at the second mate with a knife. On seeing this, the first mate rushed to the assistance of his comrade, and struck Reed on the face. The latter then stabbed his assailant with his knife in the back of his neck, and inflicted a severe wound, which extended almost from one ear to the other. Reed afterwards told the captain that he had intended to murder the first mate. When before the magistrate, he stated that both the first and second mates beat him unmercifully, the latter using a large baying pin, and that when he (Reed) used the knife, he scarcely knew what he was about. The second mate entirely denied Reed's assertion with respect to himself, and declared he never struck him at all. Reed was committed according to the International Act, until the American Ambassador could inquire into the case.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

THE May sessions commenced on Monday, when the first person tried was John Smith, who had been con-

victed at a previous session of having forged a label having reference to some patent baking powder. The conviction was quashed in the Court for the Consideration of Crown Cases Reserved, the offence not being considered to amount to forgery. The prisoner now pleaded Guilty to the charge of obtaining money under false pretences, and the prosecution consented (considering that Smith had already been imprisoned some weeks) to his being liberated on entering into recognisances to appear and receive judgment at a future time, should he be called on to do so.

John Beal, a brassfounder, was tried on a charge of being concerned with some other men (now undergoing sentence) in a garrotte robbery committed on the night of the 27th of last July on a publican in Bear-street, Leicester-square. He was sentenced to fifteen years' penal servitude.

The Rev. George Ratcliffe, a clergyman of the Church of England, was tried on Tuesday on a charge of forging the signature to a transfer of stock; and, being found Guilty, was sentenced to ten years' penal servitude. He appeared to be overwhelmed with anguish.

Several forgery cases were tried on Wednesday.—Arthur Gramolt, a barrister's clerk, pleaded Guilty to three indictments charging him with uttering forged cheques; and sentence was deferred.—George Wombwell, cattle-dealer, was found Guilty of uttering a forged £1 Bank of England note. For the defence, an *alibi* was set up; the chief witness for which, being asked in cross-examination if he had ever uttered any forged game certificates, said he should decline to answer the question. Mr. Justice Crowder, in summing up, made some severe reflections on this man; on which the latter attempted to address the court, saying that he "felt hurt" at the observations which had been made. The Judge said he could not help that, and ordered him to hold his tongue. Wombwell was sentenced to six years' penal servitude.—John Shield, a seaman, pleaded Guilty to a charge of forging an acceptance to a bill of exchange for 27l. He was sentenced to four years' penal servitude.—John James Hall, a servant, was indicted for forging and uttering certain receipts for the payment of money. He was convicted, and sentenced to penal servitude for ten years.—George Hammond and George Barrow, stationers, were indicted for forging and uttering acceptances to bills of exchange with intent to defraud. Barrow pleaded Guilty, and Hammond was found Guilty. Both were sentenced to fifteen years' transportation.

John Jones was tried for the manslaughter of Thomas Blandell, near the New Cattle Market, Islington. Being found Guilty, he was sentenced to one week's imprisonment.—A similar case, where one John Haston, a labourer, was indicted for the manslaughter of John Nelson, ended in a verdict of Guilty and a sentence of six months' imprisonment. Both deaths resulted from drunken quarrels after the parties had left public-houses.

A boy, named William Selless, and an inspector of the Thames police, named Henry John Hambrook, were tried for the manslaughter of John Thomas Bolton, a lad. The two youths were fighting, and Hambrook suggested to Selless to strike Bolton under the ear. He did so, and the boy almost immediately died. Both prisoners were found Guilty, and the boy was sentenced to the nominal punishment of one day's imprisonment. Hambrook received a good character, but was ordered to be kept to hard labour for three months.

William Lakey, a mariner, was tried on Thursday on a charge of having wilfully sunk the Clipper, a vessel of which he was the master. He was convicted, and sentenced to eight years' penal servitude.

Patrick O'Brien, the police inspector, was on the same day acquitted of the charge of stealing two pieces of bacon from a shop-board. On hearing the result of the trial, he fell down in a fit.

Louise Montet, the woman charged with robbing Messrs. Hunt and Roskell, has pleaded Guilty, and been sentenced to six years' penal servitude.

GATHERINGS FROM THE LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

The liability of husbands for the debts of their wives is a question which has several times come before the law courts for decision. The Court of Exchequer has just delivered judgment in a case of this kind—that of *Johnstone v. Sumner*. An action was brought by a milliner at the West-end against the defendant for goods supplied to his wife. Mr. and Mrs. Sumner were married in 1849, and in the following year separated by mutual consent, the defendant allowing his wife 200l. a year, derived from her father. In 1851, Mrs. Sumner was introduced by her mother to Mr. Johnstone, who supplied her with various articles of apparel in that year, amounting to 166l. The bills were sent to Mrs. Sumner, through her mother, and no claim was made on the defendant up to 1855, at which time his wife had gone to America, where she had obtained a divorce, and married again. The defence at the trial was, that the wife had no authority to pledge her husband's credit, and the Judge so directed the jury, who returned a verdict for the defendant. A rule nisi was subsequently obtained to set aside the verdict and for a new trial, on the ground of misdirection. Against this rule cause

had been shown, and the Court had reserved judgment. Their Lordships were now unanimously of opinion that the wife, who had voluntarily left her husband's roof, had no authority to pledge his credit, and that the ruling of the Judge at the trial was right. The rule to set aside the verdict was therefore discharged.

Henry Whetstone, Thomas De Puzey, George Cherry, Margaret Pickett, and Samuel Benjamin, were again examined and remanded at Marlborough-street on Monday, on the charge of being concerned in the great robbery at Lord Foley's. The evidence was strengthened by the testimony of several other witnesses, including the driver of the cab in which the spoil was conveyed away.—Another man is also under remand as an accomplice in the robbery.

Signor Mario, the eminent vocalist, has been incidentally connected this week with a law case tried on Monday in the Court of Common Pleas. In September, 1856, one Captain Cotton leased his residence, Park House, Fulham, for three years, furnished, together with the garden tools and implements and the services of the gardener, to Signor Mario, at a rent of 350l. a year. A Dr. Beggi, an Italian medical gentleman, acted as a sort of manager for Signor Mario; and at one time he made a complaint of Reeves, the gardener, to Captain Cotton, on the alleged ground that he had been talking to the maid servants and paying attentions to Madame Grisi's maid. The captain, having inquired into the matter, found that Signor Mario and Madame Grisi were well satisfied with Reeves, and that the charges were frivolous; "for," said Captain Cotton, "I should have talked to Madame Grisi's maid myself, had I been a gardener." The man, therefore, was not dismissed; but Dr. Beggi appeared to entertain some grudge against him, and was not long before he found an opportunity of doing him an injury. Reeves was directed by Madame Grisi and Captain Cotton to sell some apples, and accordingly he did so. Dr. Beggi thereupon gave him into custody, on a charge of having stolen the fruit; but, after the case had been remanded at the Hammersmith Police-office, the man was discharged. Signor Mario was at that time in France. After Reeves was in custody, Dr. Beggi went to a man engaged in painting the greenhouse, and asked him if he had heard anything about the gardener, adding, "I have caught the thief, and will give him six months." An action for false imprisonment was therefore commenced; but, towards the close of the plaintiff's case, Mr. Edwin James (who appeared for the defence) said that with the assent of Signor Mario, who, though not the defendant, would in all probability have the expenses to pay, he must express his conviction that the plea of justification could not be supported. There was no pretence for it, and he withdrew it with an expression of regret that it had ever been pleaded. He retracted altogether the charge of dishonesty; and, with regard to the damages for the false imprisonment, his learned friend had assented to take a verdict for 10l. Mr. Justice Byles said that Signor Mario and the learned counsel had acted very judiciously and properly. A verdict was then taken for the plaintiff for 10l. damages.

The Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes sat in full on Monday for the first time, and pronounced in favour of dissolution of marriage in six cases, four of which arose out of petitions by husbands against wives, while the other two were by wives against husbands. Among the former was one case in which the parties were in humble life, and the wife, besides committing adultery, had been addicted to drinking. One of the cases in which the petitions were from wives was that of Mrs. Charles Horn, the actress and wife of the vocalist, whose husband had deserted her for some years, and had even been guilty of bigamy.—The Court has pronounced for a divorce of Mr. and Mrs. Tourle, on the ground of adultery committed by the wife.

A mother brought an action for ejectment against her son in the Court of Queen's Bench on Monday. The son, George Bryan, kept a pork butcher's shop at No. 6, Berwick-street, Soho; and the mother, a Mrs. Twiner, was the lessee of the house. The arrangement was that Bryan was to pay each of his brothers 100l., and his mother the same sum, for the good-will. The money, however, was not paid; the brothers quarrelled; and Bryan, the defendant, took sole possession of the pork business. Mr. Justice Coleridge directed the jury to find a verdict for the plaintiff.

The relations of a boy who was employed at a hemp manufactory at Poplar have recovered 30l. as damages for injuries received by the lad in placing some yarn in one of the engines. The machine was not properly fenced; the poor boy was drawn in, and both his arms, besides one of his thighs, were fractured.

The Irishman, who recently cheated some papers and guiled the public by pretending to be an Italian and to give reports of an Italian Conference which never met, has been apprehended, and was examined on Thursday at Bow-street on a charge of obtaining money under false pretences from the *Morning Star*. He was committed for trial, and bail was refused.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

MOVEMENTS OF SHIPS, &c.—Lord Lyons, in the Royal Albert, with the Centurion and Conqueror, has returned, pursuant to telegraphic order, from Corfu, and

has been cruising in Malta Roads. The Princess Royal has left for Alexandria, with 654 rank and file of the 57th, for India. A reinforcement of 3700 Ottoman troops, in a steam line-of-battle ship and transport, passed Corfu on the 7th for Kieck, on the Adriatic.

MR. PETER M. K. GODFREY, late Lieutenant on board the Formidable at Sheerness, has, by an Admiralty order, been struck off the *Navy List*, in consequence of his having deserted from his ship while under arrest in his cabin, pending a court-martial ordered upon him.

ARTIFICERS AT PORTSMOUTH, &c.—The wages of the dockyard artificers at Portsmouth are to be forthwith increased one shilling per week. All the artificers at Sheerness are to be henceforth, until further orders, put on what is termed job and task work on unlimited earnings, and all labourers now employed, whether on the establishment or temporarily hired, whose weekly wages do not amount to 14s. per week, are to have their pay raised to that sum. All extra time to be paid for. A similar arrangement has been made at Woolwich, where the wages of 14s. a week are to be raised one shilling.

CAPTURE OF A SLAVER.—The gunboat Jasper, Lieutenant and Commander H. Pym, has captured, on the north side of Matanzas, a full-rigged and fast-sailing slave ship, of 750 tons burden, with a full slave-equipment and provisions for their sustenance. She had also on board specie in gold to the amount of 2260 ounces, or about 8500l. sterling. A chase of four hours and a half preceded the capture. On the previous day, the Styx had taken a prize.

MERCANTILE MARINE.

THE JAMES BAINES.—The wreck of the James Baines, partially destroyed by fire a few days ago in the Huskisson-dock, has been pumped dry, and is afloat; but it is impossible yet to say to what extent the hull has been injured, or whether she can be rebuilt.

THE LOSS OF THE CANDACE.—The steam-ship Candace, on her homeward passage from Africa, was lost, in consequence of a collision with the barque Ida Elizabeth, on the 4th inst. The persons drowned were J. H. Roit, commander; James Ryall, second engineer; Frederick Keen, boy; Captain Goodhead and George Davis, passengers. The officers and purser were to proceed to Southampton in the packet on the 16th inst.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The Queen and the Queen of Portugal went on Saturday morning to the Crystal Palace, at Sydenham, accompanied by the Prince Consort, the Prince of Hohenzollern, and Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern, and attended by the ladies and gentlemen in waiting. Their Majesties returned to Buckingham Palace at one o'clock. The Queen of Portugal held a diplomatic reception at three o'clock. The Queen and Prince Consort, with the Queen of Portugal, the Prince of Hohenzollern, and Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern, went at twenty minutes before six o'clock to the Palace of Westminster to inspect the Houses of Parliament. They returned soon after seven o'clock, and subsequently went to Her Majesty's Theatre.—The Queen, on Monday evening, gave a State Ball at Buckingham Palace, to which a party of about 1900 were invited.—The young Queen of Portugal left London on Tuesday, to join her husband.—The Queen and the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Princess Alice, went on Wednesday morning to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park. The Prince Consort, attended by his Esquerry, inspected in the afternoon the model lodging-house near the Strand, opposite Somerset-house. The Prince of Hohenzollern returned in the afternoon to Buckingham Palace, from Plymouth.

EQUALIZATION OF POOR-RATES.—A very numerous deputation, introduced by Mr. Ayrton, M.P., waited upon the Earl of Derby, on Monday, in Downing-street, for the purpose of impressing upon him their views respecting the expediency of having one equal and universal poor-rate for the whole of the metropolis. Having listened to various speeches, the Prime Minister admitted that various evils resulted from the present system, but thought that the proposed reform would create even worse. If they altered the area of rateability, he feared that the interest in good local management now felt by the inhabitants of each district would disappear, and that we should soon return to all the frauds and abuses of the old poor-law. Once establish a uniform system of rating in the metropolis, and he did not see how it could long be withheld from the whole country, when all individual interest in the management of the rates would be destroyed. He conceived that the President of the Poor-law Board had promised to refer to a select committee, not Mr. Ayrton's act, but the practical working of an act passed some years since, respecting the rating, but which had since been allowed to be a dead letter.

"BIG BEN."—The new bell for the clock tower at Westminster has been taken out of the mould in a perfectly sound state, and promises to be in every respect successful.

LORD MACAULAY was inaugurated as High Steward of Cambridge on Tuesday. The historian is in delicate health, and consequently spoke very briefly.

HIS MASTER'S THUMPER.—*Don Giovanni* was performed for the first time this season on Tuesday. Mademoiselle Titiens was the *Dona Anna*, and both in her acting and singing was evidently at home in the music and in the personation. She looked nobly, acted with fervent energy and intensity, and sang with a conscientious fidelity worthy of a true disciple of Mozart. Signor Benevantes appeared as the *Don*; but we cannot accept him as our beau-ideal of the character. Mademoiselle Piccolomini is a bewitching *Zerlina* warbling like a bird, and as adorably cruel and capricious as the *beauté du diable* can be at eighteen.

MADAME SZARVADY'S MATINÉE.—There was something more than the ordinary reception of a celebrity in the welcome given to Madame Szarvady in Willis's Rooms on Monday. Her appearance on the platform was looked for with all the interest of affection. The remembrance of Wilhelmine Claus, as she first appeared in England in 1852, was fresh and vivid, and a sort of electric sympathy between the audience and the artist was visibly and audibly current in the room. Say what you will of other great and justly eminent players, the rarest gift of all—the gift of *charm*—belongs to Wilhelmine Claus—we shall be pardoned for calling her still by her maiden name, as we think of that gentle and inspired girl whose fair, spiritual, and "ever harmless" looks (like Shelley's Sensitive Plant incarnate) took us all captive six years ago. How curious we all were to see the promise of the girl transformed into the rich maturity of the woman's genius! How anxious to be assured that the cares and trials of marriage and maternity had not clouded that open, guileless brow on which the fine and sad *insouciance* of the true artist Nature was mirrored like an April sun, and had not dulled the airy freshness and most tender and subtle grace of that enchanting touch. The programme was itself a proof that the characteristics of the pianist were unchanged by time and circumstance. Mendelssohn's trio in C minor, and Beethoven's sonata in G, were equally well chosen to display the round and liquid fulness of tone (like the fall of pearls on velvet), the irreproachable purity and refinement of style, the finished, method; the brilliant and decided accent, the caressing delicacy of the touch. Bach's "Fantaisie Chromatique and Fugue in F minor" was doubtless selected by Madame Szarvady to convince her English admirers that in respect of mechanism and mastery six years had taught her all that devoted study and conscientious practice can acquire. But it was in the lighter occasional pieces, in Stephen Heller's "Feuilles d'Album" and "Promenades d'un Solitaire," in Chopin's "Etude, C sharp minor," and his "Fantaisie Impromptu," that what we may call the idiosyncrasy of the fair artist's genius most triumphantly asserted itself. In these her playing had all the effect of a marvellous improvisation. Every ear was delighted to find in the Madame Szarvady of 1858 a perfect development of the Wilhelmine Claus of 1852; and at the close of the concert the applause was enthusiastic and prolonged. Mr. Mitchell, to whose auspices Madame Szarvady's present engagements in London are entrusted, announces her second Matinée at Willis's Rooms on Monday, the 24th inst.

MUSICAL UNION.—**RUBINSTEIN.**—The following was the programme of Mr. Ella's third Matinée on Tuesday last at St. James's Hall:—Quartet, "God preserve the Emperor," Haydn; Grand trio, B flat, Op. 97, Beethoven; Quartet (Brilliant) in E major, Op. 43, Spohr. Solos.—Pianoforte.—Romance, in F, 6-8, Op. 26; Tarantella, B minor, Op. 6, Rubinstein. The special attraction of this matinee was the return of Rubinstein, the fac-simile on a reduced scale of Beethoven, and not unworthy of the responsibility of such a likeness. This young Russian pianist has renewed and increased the extraordinary sensation he created last year in London, whilst in continental celebrity he has taken up the mantle of Liszt; throughout Europe he is regarded by the highest authorities as surpassed by no living player in that perfect union of profound feeling and amazing force, of easy strength and unaffected grace, which is not to be acquired like mere brilliancy of execution, but must be the result of a richly organized musical nature, strengthened by conscientious study, subdued and regulated by consummate art. He is anxious, however, Mr. Ella tells us, "to establish his fame rather on his creative power than his executive skill," and has for some time devoted himself to composition. The *Romance* and *Tarantella* played by him on Tuesday cannot, of course, be accepted as evidences of his powers and attainments as a composer; still, brief and slight as they are, they display an originality, a versatility, and a command of the resources of the instrument, which are a sufficient earnest of grander things to come. Although Rubinstein took the lion's share of the applause on Tuesday last, Mr. Sainton's admirable playing in Spohr's quartet was thoroughly enjoyed and very warmly applauded. Joachim and Rubinstein are announced to play at the fourth Matinée on the 25th, and Madame Szarvady (Wilhelmine Claus) at the fifth Matinée.

MISS ARABELLA GODDARD'S SOIRÉES.—The most notable of our English pianists closed her series of three soirées on Wednesday evening, with a programme well worthy of her high reputation. A glance at the selection of pieces is sufficient to distinguish such a performance from the mass of concerts which are now setting

in with summer severity. Air Varié, pianoforte and violoncello, Op. 17, Mendelssohn; grand sonata in E minor, Op. 79, Weber; fugue in G minor, Scarlatti; prelude and fugue in G major (clavier bien tempéré), J. S. Bach; fugue in D major, "Kraftig und Feurig" (seven characteristic pieces), Mendelssohn; nocturno in B flat, pianoforte and violin, Dussek; grand sonata in B flat, Op. 106; Beethoven. Miss Arabella Goddard was assisted on this occasion by Mr. Sainton (violin), and Mr. Horatio Chipp (violoncello). These soirées will long be remembered by true lovers of the best music, and they have secured to Miss Goddard an indisputable pre-eminence in her art.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—The engagement of Mr. and Mrs. Keeley at the Adelphi has been quite an event in the play-going world, and has given a look of old times to this famous little theatre. In Mark Lemon's domestic farce "That Blessed Belfry," the house has been kept in a roar every night this week, for thirty minutes at a stretch, by the inimitable humour of Mr. Keeley as the father, and Mrs. Keeley as the mother, of an infant, whose existence in the lower regions of a house (in which they are living as footman and housekeeper to a child-hating bachelor), must needs be a furtive one. Those who are acquainted with the best comic acting in Paris, the classic city of dramatic art, well know what we mean in saying that Keeley has all the breadth and unctious of Arnal, and much of the subtlety and finesse of Bonfils, while he is far less conventional than the former, and far more spontaneous and unforced than the latter of the two celebrated French actors we have named. Mrs. Keeley is the type of true dramatic instinct *jusqu'à bout des doigts*.

MRS BURDETTE COUTTS has signified, through Mr. John Cheetham, M.P., her intention to contribute a donation of 200*l.*, and to give an annual subscription of 100*l.*, to the Lancashire Cotton Supply Association.

HAMPTON COURT.—An improvement has been devised at Hampton Court Palace in the display of the Raphael Cartoons. They are all to be lowered to the level of the eye, and this will be a great boon, since notoriously, in apartments built at the period of this portion of the palace, all the upper two-thirds of the walls are in perpetual gloom.—*Athenæum*.

THE SOCIETY OF ARTS held a *conversazione* last Saturday at the South Kensington Museum.

AN IMPROVED OMNIBUS.—Now that the Saloon Omnibus Company has been brought to the Bankruptcy Court, we must look in some other direction for rescue from that unconscionable Anglo-French Company, which promised so much, and has done so little. We are, therefore, glad to see it announced that Mr. Ayshford, the omnibus builder, of Walham-green and Drury-lane, has patented a new vehicle, which seems to promise great comfort to the passengers. Although no longer than the omnibus now in vogue, it accommodates thirteen passengers inside, and sufficient room is left down the middle to allow passengers to pass and repass without annoying their neighbours, while the height is such that a man of average altitude may walk along the centre with his hat on, without stooping. Thus the size is larger than that of the ordinary omnibuses, but the weight is considerably less, being exactly one ton; and the draught is very easy, owing to the way in which the vehicle is put on its wheels. The greatest apparent novelty is in the seats for outside passengers, all of which have round them an oaken rail, dividing the one from the other. This rail on the seat, usually called the knife-board, takes a zig-zag direction along its entire length, by which half the passengers sit in an opposite direction to the other half alternately, the seats being similar to a series of conversational couches. Of the four seats on the front, the two on the outside are thrown back about ten inches from the other two, thus allowing persons occupying these seats much more freedom than they now can have on the ordinary omnibuses. This last arrangement is favoured by the formation of the front of the omnibus, which is of a half-octagonal shape, and allows the foot-board to come round in a way very convenient for ascending and descending.

CHURCH-RATE CONTEST AT HARBOROUGH.—A very singular contest has just been concluded at the town of Market Harborough. Mr. Nunneley, a Dissenter—who may in truth be called a local Hampden, "who, with dauntless breast," withstood his "petty tyrants"—refused to pay a levy of 1*l.* 16*s.*, and was summoned before a local bench of magistrates in petty sessions. Through his legal adviser, he demanded the production of the book containing the minutes of the meeting at which the rate was said to have been levied, on the ground that, unless that were done, there would be no sufficient proof of the actual levy. The magistrates ruled against this; but, at a subsequent stage of the proceedings, the prosecutors consented to the production of the book. Mr. Nunneley then asserted that the minutes were not correct, since they made no mention of an important motion proposed at the parish meeting. The point was argued with much elaboration of legal subtlety and learning; but, in the end, it was decided against Mr. Nunneley. He then suggested that the case should be adjourned, in order that counsel's opinion should be taken on it; but this also was overruled, and an order was made for payment.

THE GERMAN HOSPITAL.—A ball, under the auspices of her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge and her Royal Highness the Princess Mary of Cambridge,

took place, by permission of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, at St. James's Hall, on the evening of Friday week. It was held in aid of the funds of the German Hospital—a charity greatly needed in this metropolis, since of the foreigners living in London, no less than six-sevenths, or upwards of 30,000, are natives of Germany or of German provinces subject to alien States.

A MAY-DAY SONG.—A correspondent sends us the following parody on Milton's Song on May Morning, written under the influence of the east wind, and showing a vehement dissent from Mr. Kingsley's opinions in favour of that keen and arid influence:—

Now the bleak morning star, day's harbinger,
Comes shiv'ring from the east, and leads with her
Th' inclement May, who from her ice-lap throws
The tort'ring ague, and the vernal snows.
Hail, fearful May, that dost inspire
Fogs, and coughs, and a big coal-fire;
Pills and draughts are of thy giving,
House and street feel thy deceiving.
Thus I salute thee with a stinging snort,
And, trembling at thee, wish thee short.

MENDICITY SOCIETY.—A meeting of the patrons of this society took place at the offices in Red Lion-square, when the Marquis of Westminster, who is the president, occupied the chair. From the report it appeared that the association is in a very thriving state. The chief object of the society is the detection and punishment of begging impostors. When a solicitation for charity is made to any one of the members, it is sent to the office, and placed in the hands of one of the constables. The case is then investigated, and, if genuine, the applicant is relieved; if false, he is prosecuted. The report having been received and adopted, and other business transacted, the meeting broke up.

ASTRONOMICAL EXPEDITION.—Sir John Pakington, with prompt and sagacious liberality, has offered to place vessels at the disposal of science for observation of the great eclipse of next September—the points for seeing which to astronomical advantage lies in South America, and particularly about Lima. An astronomical expedition may perhaps be organized, and, if so, foreign astronomers are invited to join the expedition.—*Athenæum*.

SIR HENRY BULWER has been appointed to succeed Lord Stratford de Redcliffe as Ambassador at Constantinople.

THE BISHOP OF CALCUTTA was consecrated on Thursday at Westminster Abbey; the Archbishop of Canterbury presiding.

THE LATE LIEUTENANT G. D. WILLOUGHBY.—The East India Company have granted to the mother of the gallant young Lieutenant Willoughby, of the Bengal Artillery, who blew up the magazine at Delhi, an annuity of 150*l.*, commencing from the date of her son's decease.

A TORNADO IN LAMBETH.—A sort of tornado swept over Lambeth and Southwark between three and four o'clock on Thursday afternoon. A stack of chimneys was blown down through the roof of the Sun Theatre; people were lifted off their feet, and some of them were seriously injured; some men painting a house-front were swept off the ladder; windows were blown in, penthouses carried away, and the air filled with tiles and various articles from shops; while many of the vessels on the river were driven against one another with great violence.

TESTIMONIAL TO SIR G. B. PECHELL, BART., M.P.—A large and influential meeting of the inhabitants of Brighton, presided over by the Mayor, resolved, on Wednesday, to perpetuate the long, faithful, and indefatigable services of the Vice-Admiral Sir George Brooke Pechell, Baronet, as one of the members for the borough for a period of time approaching a quarter of a century, by placing his portrait in the Town Hall, and presenting one also to the Honorable Lady Brooke Pechell, as a lasting memorial of the esteem of his constituents.

DISCOVERY IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC.—A letter written by Captain Cubins of the Caribou, belonging to Liverpool, to the Secretary of the Admiralty, speaks of a cluster of islands not laid down in the charts, and which lie in the direct track to Australia. The attention of the owners and masters of ships ought to be called to the subject, as many vessels of which no tidings have been heard may have been wrecked on them. The captain of an American schooner has got possession of the islands, and derives a great profit from the oil yielded by the "sea elephants" which frequent the shores.

THE LATE EXPLOSION AT MAYENCE.—The Germanic Diet, in the sitting of Monday, adopted a resolution to the effect that it could not admit the pretension of the Municipal Council of Mayence that the Germanic Confederation should give an indemnity for the damage done by the explosion of the powder magazine in that city last November; but that from motives of equity it would contribute 160,000 florins to the subscription made on behalf of the sufferers.

MR. RAREY has been horse-taming in Paris, and has given the utmost satisfaction.

LORD ST. LEONARD'S "HANDY BOOK."—A sixth edition of these inestimable Law-letters has just been published by Messrs. Blackwood.

THE MAYOR'S OATH TO OXFORD UNIVERSITY.—At

The Town Council, held on Thursday, it was agreed, by 22 votes to 10, to authorize the town clerk to take the opinion of counsel, and defend the action brought by the University against the Mayor for refusing to take the usual oath. A motion was made that the cost of the action should be borne by the Mayor and Council, but was withdrawn on account of its illegality.

WRECK ON THE CORNISH COAST.—The ship *Defence*, of Liverpool, has been wrecked off the Cornish coast, near Bude; but the crew were saved, after great trouble and risk, by the men of the Royal National Life Boat Institution at Bude. They had to go a distance of fourteen miles with their apparatus before they could reach the spot where the wreck had gone on shore. The ship was wedged under a perpendicular cliff, three hundred feet high, and the men on shore had to make their way round a difficult point. "The crew," says a *William Tredgiddie*, one of the rescuing party, "clung to a rock, with the sea breaking heavily over them, without one ray of hope, and an overhanging cliff of immense height above them. In this position the coastguard had to slide down a most awful cliff, and, with the aid of a small line and with holding on to each other, succeeded in hauling the whole of the crew, more dead than alive, over the cliffs. Had the small rope broken at the time, the whole of the men engaged in the dangerous undertaking would have been hurled over the cliffs into the sea and perished. One of the coast-guardmen was obliged to be suspended with one leg over the cliffs, to clear and lift the crew over the precipice. I must, in justice to the inhabitants, say that they one and all did their best for the rescue of the crew, and stood by to the last, rendering what aid they could. The ship proved to be the *Defence*, of and for Liverpool, Thomas Hastings, master, 1000 tons burden, from the coast of Africa, laden with bar-wood; but having met with a series of accidents—first, in losing both anchors and cables on the Western Islands, then in attempting to reach Milford—struck on the Crow Rock, and lost her rudder, and was left, through stress of weather, by a steamer that had been towing her, to her sad fate, when she drove on shore and was dashed to atoms."

OMAR PACHA AND THE ARABS.—The military movements of Omar Pacha against the wandering Arab tribes (says a letter from Damascus of April 12th), have proved completely successful. His troops have returned with a rich booty, part of which consists of 1500 camels. The chief, Eba Adhal, and other chiefs, have arrived at Bagdad to make their submission. Omar Pacha has received them with great distinction. The hope that he would accord an indemnity to the merchants who were pillaged last year does not seem likely to be realized.

GOVERNMENT EMIGRATION.—The Government emigrant ship *Stebonheath*, 114 tons, Captain Connell, which sailed from Plymouth on the 30th of September, in charge of Surgeon-Superintendent William Johnson Rowland, with 26 married couples, 84 single men, 149 single women, 35 boys between the ages of 1 and 12, 27 girls between the same ages, and eight infants, making a total of 355 souls, equal to 316 statute adults, of whom 291 were English, 8 Scotch, and 146 Irish, arrived at Sydney, New South Wales, on the 27th of February. Five deaths, viz., 1 adult and four infants, and four births occurred during the voyage.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, May 15th.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House appointed Tuesday next for a conference with the Commons on the Oaths Bill.

THE MINISTRY AND THE DESPATCH TO LORD CANNING.

The Earl of SHAFFESBURY moved certain resolutions which will be found in full in another column.—The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH replied, urging that Oude ought to be treated like a country with which we had been at war, and not as a rebellious province.—The Duke of ARKLY followed, supporting the resolutions, and was replied to by the Earl of CARNARVON.—The Duke of SOMERSET supported the motion, which was opposed in a long speech by the LORD CHANCELLOR, who moved the "previous question," and to whom LORD CRANWORTH replied.—The Earl of DONOUGHMORE having spoken on behalf of the Government, EARL GREY proposed to deal with the question from the opposite view, censuring the hasty proceeding of the Government, and expressing his expectation of the ill effect it would produce in India.

The Earl of DERRY then rose, and made an elaborate and earnest defence of the course pursued by Ministers. He spoke in high terms of Lord Canning's administration in every respect except in the matter of the ill-judged Proclamation, which was calculated to cause great danger to Oude. As regarded the despatch of Lord Ellenborough, nothing that had passed involved the Cabinet generally in the responsibility of that act.—EARL GRANVILLE supported the motion.—The House divided:—

For the motion 158
Against it 107

Majority for Government 9

The House then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

There was no preliminary business transacted, and the usual questions on Friday nights on the motion for the adjournment to Monday, were postponed for the purpose of clearing the way for the

VOTE OF CENSURE ON THE GOVERNMENT.

MR. CARDWELL moved, in a very elaborate speech, in which his main argument was that the publication of the despatch of Lord Ellenborough to Lord Canning was an act for which the whole Cabinet was responsible, the following resolution:—"That this House, whilst, in its present state of information, it abstains from expressing an opinion on the policy of any proclamation which may have been issued by the Governor-General of India in relation to Oude, has seen with regret and serious apprehension that her Majesty's Government have addressed to the Governor-General, through the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors, and have published a despatch condemning in strong terms the conduct of the Governor-General; and is of opinion that such a course on the part of the Government must tend, in the present circumstances of India, to produce the most prejudicial effect, by weakening the authority of the Governor-General, and encouraging the further resistance of those who are in arms against us."—MR. DEASY seconded the motion.—The SOLICITOR-GENERAL followed, defending the course of the Government on the ground that the Proclamation of Lord Canning was unjust and impolitic, and urging that the publication of the despatch was fully atoned for by the generous resignation of Lord Ellenborough.—MR. LOWE followed, arguing in favour of the motion.—MR. LINDSAY, on the part of the independent Liberal members, expressed their preference of the present Government to seeing Lord Palmerston again in office.

LORD A. VANE TEMPEST moved an amendment, deprecating further proceedings till more information was received from India.—Colonel SKES supported the motion.—MR. H. BAILEY stated that the Governor-General had refused to listen to the advice of Sir James Outram to issue an amnesty for Oude.—MR. VERNON SMITH and Lord STANLEY having spoken, Lord JOHN RUSSELL declared that the House must either vote censure on the Ministry, or declare Lord Canning unfit for his office. He strenuously supported the motion.—On the motion of Mr. ROEBUCK, the debate was adjourned to Monday, and the House rose at a quarter-past twelve.

THE CONTINENT.

A statue to General Pepe, distinguished by his efforts for the liberation of Italy from Austrian predominance, has been inaugurated with fitting pomp at Turin.

The intelligence from Constantinople is to the 5th. More troops are being sent to Montenegro. The peasants of Albania, exasperated at the exactions of the tax-collectors, have refused to pay more, telling them to take their ploughs if they pleased. The consuls of France and Austria have pacified the tribes of the Libanus.

M. de Thouvenot has, it is stated, revived the question of the Holy Places, by advancing a claim at Constantinople on behalf of the Latins to the capitals of the church of St. Sepulchre at Jerusalem.

The Prince Royal of Wurtemberg arrived on Wednesday night at eleven o'clock in Paris, and alighted with his suite at the Hotel du Louvre. He will, it is said, remain some time in Paris, and will accompany the Emperor and Empress to Fontainebleau.

The *Constitutionnel* announces that the Princess Marie of Baden, the sister of the reigning Grand Duke, is affianced to the Prince Ernest de Leiningen, the half-brother of Queen Victoria.

The Austrians are said to have arrested the Montenegrin Greek Archbishop, who was supposed to have gone on a mission to St. Petersburg, at Zara. No reason for this arrest is stated.

CANADA.—Two fires broke out at Toronto on the night of the 27th ult., destroying much property. Great alarm was felt in consequence of the extraordinary number of fires which had occurred. It was supposed that they were the work of a band of incendiaries. The citizens were organizing a patrol, and offering large rewards for the apprehension and conviction of the miscreants.

MISS AMY SEDGWICK.—We are glad to see it stated that Miss Amy Sedgwick, who has for some time been suffering from severe indisposition, is now rapidly recovering at Hastings, and that it is expected she will shortly make her appearance again on the stage.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Sanitary Condition of the Army." No. 11, next week. No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. What ever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith. It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted, it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1858.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—DR. ARNOLD

OUR INDIAN EMPIRE AND FACTIONS—AT HOME.

A DISMAL state of political immorality is betrayed by the anarchy of factions at home to profit by any disputed point of Indian policy. The discussions of the present week have been not only embittered by every excess of gratuitous personality, but there has been scarcely an attempt to conceal the fact that the great question at home is that between Piccadilly and St. James's-square. The movement concerted at Cambridge House was originally an intrigue, and as such it was immediately denounced by the Government party; but, unhappily for the Cabinet, MR. CARDWELL and those whom he represents had found a strong case, and with malevolent "patriotism," stood forward to assert a policy of discretion against the totally indefensible rashness of an impetuous Minister. Lord ELLENBOROUGH had clearly committed himself past apology, and the Ministry had been compromised with him. Whatever may be thought of the Proclamation to the people of Oude, the form of censure adopted in Cannon-row and sanctioned in Downing-street, and its precipitate and blundering publication, threw upon the Cabinet a responsibility which it ought never to have incurred, and for which it will have to answer to Parliament—perhaps to the constituencies. The Opposition, we think, was bound to challenge the conduct of Lord ELLENBOROUGH; and when MR. DISRAELI, in reply to an interrogation, evidently preconcerted, from MR. BRIGHT, identified himself and his colleagues with the course that had been pursued, there was, perhaps, no alternative except to raise a debate involving the existence of the Ministry or that of Lord PALMERSTON'S House of Commons. No one complains that the Whigs desire to defend their nominee at Calcutta, together with Lord DALHOUSIE and Lord JOHN RUSSELL himself, or that they have undertaken to censure the public declamations of Lord ELLENBOROUGH in favour of the enemy in Oude; but can we glance at their manoeuvres and say that they are not taking advantage of a plausible opportunity to coalesce for a faction fight? It is not the CARDWELL or the SHAFFESBURY resolutions we condemn; it is the spirit which has infused so much hypocritical activity into the body of the Opposition. Whatever the Parliamentary issue, the honest opinion of the country will judge in a public sense, and decide between one set of principles and another. To do this calmly and intelligently it is necessary to consider the intent of Lord CANNING'S Proclamation. Reduced to its essence, it set forth that the conspicuously loyal zemindars, talukdars, and chokdars

of Oude should be guaranteed in possession of their estates and rewarded, that actual murderers should be excluded from mercy, that persons of all classes making their submission early should be secure of "life and honour," that those who aided the Government would be entitled to its superior consideration, and that, with certain exceptions, the territory was conditionally confiscated, or rather held in pledge, until the authority of the British Commissioner had been completely re-established, and due investigation made into the armies of the rebellion. We dare not be so rapid in our verdicts as Lord ELLENBOROUGH, and are therefore unable for the present to weigh every point in this manifesto; our information, to say the truth, is vague and unsatisfactory. It may prove that the menace of confiscation was impolitic, or it may be shown that Lord CANNING followed the wisest course open to him. That is a problem not yet to be solved by political critics at home. But there are certain known facts which may help us to a conclusion. In the first place, a number of the great landowners in Oude are not of that class for whom any appeal can legitimately be made on the ground of hereditary possession. They had acquired their estates at a period comparatively recent by the plunder and murder of their weaker neighbours, and, as Colonel SLEEMAN ascertained, these were the favourites and most strenuous adherents of the dethroned dynasty. The assumption of the country by Lord DALHOUSIE, and the exaction of arrears from the territorial lords, arrayed against us a large proportion of that powerful order, and this hostility was of course aggravated when the Governor-General proposed to supersede the talookdar by the village system. The scheme was never very largely developed, and Lord CANNING, upon his accession to the administration of India, set his face against it. It was not until after the revolt, with its accumulation of horrors and atrocities, that he believed himself entitled to resume for the Government the disposition of the land—a privilege which, we are convinced, he never intended to employ to any oppressive extent. Why, however, did he send home without explanation a document so easy to misinterpret and so sure to be attacked? This, we think, was a blamable omission.

We are in a position to speak of Lord CANNING with candour and independence. We have not at all times approved his policy. At the commencement of the mutiny he was demonstrably wanting in foresight; he dealt perversely with the suggestions of men who were competent to instruct him; he confounded the English with the native press; he appeared to parade his contempt of the European community; he contracted a fatal habit of undertaking too much, and was dissatisfied if, in addition to being his own council, he was not also his own clerk; but we are forced to say that he met the appalling difficulties of his situation with cool and steady courage, and it is a testimony to his consistent calmness that those who once inveighed against his clemency at present denounce his rigour. He has kept an even course, and has therefore offended extreme opinions on both sides. So far as to Lord CANNING. Taken for all in all, his policy has been sound, and its wisdom has been evidenced by its success. To Lord ELLENBOROUGH no such congratulations apply. He came into office when the worst of the crisis had passed; he found Lord CANNING with the most delicate and complex of all responsibilities upon his hands—that of following with vigorous and cautious acts of administrative policy the subsidence of the insurrection. Sir COLIN CAMPBELL and his

brigadiers were beating the rebels. The Governor-General was taking charge of the rescued provinces. He issued a Proclamation designed to quell the turbulent and win over the timid, and, whatever flaw that document may contain, Lord CANNING neither did, nor could do, anything so rash or perilous as was done—and done in good faith, no doubt—by the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH. His despatch to Lord CANNING was an edict, and a propensity to edicts has been his official ruin. It was a mistake to impose a check so abrupt upon the administration of the Governor-General, who might have been presumed to act with full knowledge of the circumstances, and of the influence likely to be exerted by his Proclamation. But to pass the "secret" despatch from hand to hand, to raise a discussion upon it, to transmit a copy to Mr. JOHN BRIGHT, and to announce emphatically in Parliament that Lord CANNING had been visited with an official censure, was a complicated act of weakness and folly committed by Lord ELLENBOROUGH in common with the other members of the Cabinet. It was the President of the Board of Control who made himself responsible for publishing the state-paper in which he went far in an argument to justify the Oude rebellion and exalt it as a patriotic war; but Mr. DISRAELI declared from his place on the Treasury bench that the CANNING Proclamation was by him, and by his colleagues, "condemned in every sense," so that, straightforward, manly, and generous as the conduct of Lord ELLENBOROUGH has been, we cannot think that he has exonerated the rest of the Government. There are grounds for a parliamentary vote of reprobation; but it must be mortifying to public opinion in a constitutional country to observe the frenzy of selfish excitement into which the expectant factions are thrown, when, through a gap in the Indian policy of the Ministers, they perceive a chance of rushing back to office. This has been the discreditable aspect of the week's discussion, and we are sorry to believe that Mr. CARDWELL went to Cambridge House to enrol himself among the men whose desperate fidelity to Lord PALMERSTON far surpasses their loyalty to any public interest or political principle. This we say with the less reserve, and with the more pain, inasmuch as, whether with or without a dissolution of Parliament, a new Government is all but inevitable—as the *Daily News* has explained—within the next few months. It is impossible that Lord DERBY can long cling to office at the head of a minority, scarcely numbering more than one-third of the House of Commons, and at variance with the majority on so many important questions. We have a Premier who admitted to Mr. SPOONER that Maynooth had failed, yet declined to support his motion for inquiry; who objected to Mr. LOCKE KING's County Franchise Bill, yet instructed his lieutenants in the Lower House not to divide against it; who is a champion of church rates, and sees the majority led by Sir JOHN TRELAWNY; who considers marriage with a deceased wife's sister incestuous, and cannot prevent the second reading of Viscount BURY's bill; who believes that the Legislature will be unchristianized by the admission of a Jew, and is to meet Baron ROTHSCHILD in conference, under the compulsion of a parliamentary vote; and who, having abandoned his India Bill, abandons his India Minister. What is the result, but that both Houses are stultified, and that, while factions are gravitating, now to Lord PALMERSTON, now to Lord JOHN RUSSELL, all possibility of honest and effective legislation is destroyed? India has been totally sacrificed in the midst of these party squabbles, these threats of censure,

these evolutions of political leaders, these Cambridge House gatherings, these calculations by Sir WILLIAM JOLIFFE and Sir WILLIAM HAYTER, these doubts of the Liberals whether they shall wear the London or Tiverton cockade.

THE INDEPENDENT LIBERAL PARTY.

A HUNDRED AND TWENTY members of the House of Commons consider themselves to be sufficiently agreed upon the principles of a Liberal policy to cohere as an independent party. They now understand, we should imagine, of what importance it is to them that their strength and unity should be manifested. Already, the demonstration they have made has produced a visible impression in and out of Parliament. The Conservative prints insinuate the most flattering appeals to the Hundred and Twenty not to throw away their support upon the Whigs. The Whig organs point to the process of Liberal organization as a sign that, if there be one growing party in the House of Commons it is not the Conservative. And the Hundred and Twenty well know that not only the present but any future Cabinet must depend upon them if only they have a common basis, an intelligent and indefinite course of action, and such a systematic method of representing themselves and public opinion as will not only give them weight in the House, but render them the nucleus of Liberalism throughout the country. Allowing the Conservatives two hundred and seventy votes in the Commons, the Liberals number three hundred and ninety. From the latter take the hundred and twenty now endeavouring to organize themselves, and resolved, as they declare, to insist upon a Government of progress and sincerity, and what is left to the Whigs? Two hundred and sixty-five votes—a combination which, without the aid of the hundred and twenty who enrol themselves as independent members, the Conservatives might at any time overthrow. There is no necessity for drilling a Brigade or a Brass Band to exercise a domineering terrorism over Ministers by threatening to leave them in a minority whenever a Liberal proposal is refused, but we do say with Mr. Headlam that the party has been unfairly treated, while we go beyond him in saying, that the party deserves what it has suffered. Even now public opinion is so incredulous of any union or persistency among the Liberal members of the House of Commons, that in many quarters it is whispered that Mr. Headlam's complaint was the cry of a stormy petrel, and that independent legislators have been fluttered by the fear of a dissolution. And well may they dread to go before their constituents with an account of their good and evil works since the last general election. Who of the new men has distinguished himself? Where are all the promises, prophecies, and hopes that, in 1857, showered from the hustings? Where is the organization that was predicted? and what have the Liberals done for themselves or the principles they are supposed to represent? They are only now beginning to remember that they form the materials of an influential party, and they might do something for their cause if they were not jealous, divided, and indifferent.

At the first meeting of the independent members resolutions were carried declaratory of their intention not to support any future Government established on the narrow Whig basis. It was proposed to vote that "more earnest zeal" in favour of Reform must be displayed by the next Cabinet appealing to the confidence of the Liberal party; but the word "more," upon a motion to that effect, was struck out, and a hundred and twenty members of the House of Commons thus declared unanimously that no liberal zeal whatever had been exhibited by Lord Palmerston or Lord John Russell. This important resolution—"That no future Government will be worthy of support which does not manifest earnest zeal and sincerity in promoting measures of improvement and reform"—might operate as a warning and stimulus to the chiefs of the Opposition, could they be convinced that the movement is not a mere flash in the pan—could they see a party organizing and a policy developed by the independent Liberals—could they see them communicating directly and regularly with the public, as other sections do, with far more confidence in themselves, though with far inferior claims to popularity. What does Mr. J. Clay confess? That he and his friends have hitherto pursued a course which has rendered them "useless in the House of Commons," and must shortly

bring them "into contempt with the country." "I see," Mr. Clay added, "but one solution of the difficulty—that the Whigs who follow Lord Palmerston must shake hands with those who are attached to Lord John Russell. Both must then take a wide step in advance to meet the Radicals, and must meet them on something like equal terms in the formation of a Government."

This was the spirit of the first meeting. At the second, held on Wednesday last, no formal resolutions were adopted, and the discussion derived a colour from the events which appear to be forcing on a new Parliamentary crisis. At the third, the impending crisis in Parliament hushed every other question, and, while Mr. Bright defended the Cabinet, Liberals of Mr. Duncombe's stamp agreed to go with Mr. Cardwell into the lobby.

There has been in existence, for a considerable time, a committee of parliamentary Liberals, with whom originated the plan of appointing two whippers-in to keep the party informed upon all matters affecting its organized action, and to assist in establishing a political concert among the members before every important debate. It may be hoped, therefore, that we shall no longer hear of Ballot motions rejected without a discussion, and of a parliamentary Liberal, upon asking leave to introduce an important bill, being deserted by his seconder, shouted down by his friends, confuted by a Treasury speech, which it is impossible for him to hear, and thus made to contribute towards a Conservative triumph. Two grand objects may be accomplished by the Independent members if they do not tire in their attempts to consolidate themselves into a working party. They may wield immense parliamentary power, and act vigorously upon the public mind, and they may compel a reform in the composition of Cabinets. It is simply owing to their disunion that no Administration has hitherto been formed representing the opinions, principles, and talents of the great Liberal party, that forty families have monopolized the great offices of state for forty years; that courtly influences are obeyed when popular influences are despised; that cliques and compacts dishonour the very theory of constitutional government. All this it is in the power of the independent Liberals to amend if they go to work without egotism or apathy, and especially if the most adroit of their number are capable of resisting a temptation to sink the party, and accept the first offer of a service under the Whigs. Some there are, we fear, in this expectant attitude; but if the widening of a Government is to consist merely in the absorption of any Bernal Osborne willing to be gagged by a secretariat, the process will only damage and demoralize the Liberal organization. The resolution, "that any Government wishing to have the confidence of the Liberal party should be established on a broader basis," means more than this, or it means nothing at all.

Much time has been sacrificed to the dilatory difference of the independent Liberals. In the middle of their second session they are preparing to move. Their time for preparation, however, will in all probability be short, since their votes are now challenged upon a question affecting the duration of the existing Government. Mr. Bright, we think, expressed the universal sentiment of the Liberal party when he said that no reason existed for prematurely dissolving the actual Ministry; but if a decision must be taken on a point involving something of far more vital importance than the calculations of party—the security and regular government of the Indian Empire—and if members act upon their convictions, a change may be precipitated even sooner than, upon general grounds, he considered desirable. Is, then, the Liberal party in readiness for such a contingency? There have been negotiations, and the Whig leaders thoroughly comprehend the terms upon which the independent members will support them; but, for the present, we can offer no satisfactory statement of results.

PUBLIC MEN AND "PRIVATE" ADMINISTRATIONS.

We have new revelations of hidden statesmanship. The great accusation against Lord Ellenborough in fact is, that he has not paid sufficient attention to the private portion of official writing. He had Lord Canning's Proclamation, and he had a right to judge it; but he is accused of not having sought instruction from private notes addressed to the other gentlemen who have been in office. Years back we exposed the extent to which this practice of concealed statesmanship has gone. The correspondence between each department and its outlying

subordinates is carried on by notes, by despatches which may or may not be read, or by private letters which profess to be intended exclusively for the information of the officials. In India this style of correspondence has been developed to enormous dimensions. The correspondence between the several departments extends to masses which would scarcely be conceived by the purely English mind; every document being repeated at almost every exchange of letters. But besides those public and recorded communications, there has been growing up a literature consisting of purely private letters, and the practice has extended from the Governor-General downwards. No gentleman has carried it so far as Lord Canning, who may be said to have reflected his public correspondence in a constant accompaniment of private correspondence, modifying, amending, contracting, enlarging, and reversing the public and responsible instructions by private and irresponsible suggestions. For this is a form of administration which completely avoids the inconveniences of publicity and responsibility.

The practice has now been carried yet a degree further. In explaining the nature of the letter which Lord Ellenborough is reproved for not seeking, Mr. Vernon Smith says that it was not a private note addressed to him as a minister, but it was a letter addressed to him as a private friend. If so, he was certainly not bound to produce it. But let us understand this statement. It would appear that public administration has come to be a matter discussed between "private friends," as an affair of their own. Lord Canning issues a Proclamation substantially confiscating the seignior of the land of Oude. It is a document which needs explanation, fully at a convenient time, but in some degree at once. It is not, however, thought necessary to make this explanation to the public Minister, though it is necessary to the private friend. In short, the true spirit and intent of a great act of confiscation in Central India is a merely private matter.

We suspected this view of public affairs, and we believe that it has existed for some time. It has been said that the administration of this country has been so long carried on by forty families and their connexions, that they regard it as a family property. Their holding, indeed, is subjected to certain usages, as many a baronial tenure has been. A great corporation has retained its holding on condition of counting certain hobnails; a Lord of the Manor is obliged to give a fitch of bacon in some cases; others have been under compulsion to give a horse, or to lend a certain number of armed men on demand. In the same way, the forty families are obliged, upon certain occasions, to consult the Commons; but all these little matters can be arranged. Even the consulting of the Commons can be managed through agents, who see to the right composition of that body, and take care that it cannot do mischief or encroach upon the power of the families. Thus the administration of England, as well as of India, is settling down into a family matter; and it will be bad taste as well as bad manners to pry into family correspondence.

These facts are the great arguments against any *mésalliances*. If statesmen will unite themselves politically to persons who are beneath their caste, they must either admit profane people to the family confidence, or they must occasionally break the routine by excluding improperly promoted officials from initiation into the family letter-writing.

OPPOSITION UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

THERE is some instruction to be derived from the last election which has taken place in Paris. The candidate of the Opposition, M. Ernest Picard, was totally unknown to the constituency, and even to most party leaders. He came forward only a few hours before the period fixed by law and took the oath. No address was issued in his name. All the Government journals received orders not to mention his existence. The only means of publicity at his command were the *Siccle* and the *Presse*, which simply stated his name as candidate for the Opposition. A few bills bearing his name were pasted on the walls. Yet, in spite of this, he very nearly obtained the majority; and as other candidates were in the field and got votes there was no return.

A second election, therefore, became necessary. The Government did its best to agitate the circumscription in favour of M. Eck; and, as before, ordered its journals to mention no other name. This time, however, the manoeuvre was unsuccessful. The existence of M. Picard had become known; and although many Republicans still

preached abstention, the Liberal party showed itself sufficiently interested in the result to come up to the poll in greater numbers than before, and to give the previously unknown candidate a majority of fifteen hundred.

The fair inference from this is, that the means at the disposal of the French Government for throwing obstacles in the way of the expression of public opinion are very formidable indeed. The Opposition is forbidden to meet in any numbers, or in any public way, forbidden to issue addresses, forbidden to make use of the press in an effective manner. It can only attempt to arrive at a common understanding by means of interchanged words or letters; and we all know how difficult this must be in a constituency of thirty thousand voters. In England, despite the press, and public meetings, and committees, and agents, it is often found difficult to move two-thirds of the electors of a tolerably sized borough. Where should we be if deprived of all these means?

There is nothing, it seems, astonishing in the fact that, except in some very few instances, the Imperial Government always carries the day. We believe that throughout the country its candidates rarely unite much more than a quarter of the electors; but, as the Opposition generally abstains, partly from deep hostility to the imperial regime, partly from fear, chiefly, perhaps, from the impossibility of coming to any agreement, power triumphs nevertheless. A very curious fact has been ascertained, namely, that a large proportion of the peasantry, who most willingly voted for Napoleon III. as Emperor are disposed, if allowed to exercise their free will, to give their votes for what are called "red" candidates. They do not even now see through the false pretences of liberalism on which Louis Bonaparte obtained his throne. There can be little doubt, however, that, in the course of time, the Opposition will again come to have a clear and defined object; and then the Government will be placed between the alternatives of changing its policy or perishing.

THE STATE BALL AND ITS DRESS-MAKER.

A STATE BALL at Buckingham Palace is a picture all the details of which are rich, and bright, and graceful; the figures living types of the social refinements of the time; the beauty exalted to the last step between the tangible and the ideal; the inner spirit of the whole scene the poetry of ordinary life. Cynics may sneer; but a State Ball in that palace is a beautiful scene—a dream of fancy realized. Nineteen hundred guests were invited by the Queen to the State Ball on Monday evening; but the sense of number was entirely overborne by that of the harmony in which the individual, while retaining a distinctive personality, blended with the crowd. The flooding light over all was smooth and tender; the music seemed as if made by the motion of the scented air—it was so spontaneous, so thoroughly a part of the life of the beautiful picture. Nothing could surpass the harmony of colour which the eye took in at every point of view; in texture everything that met the sight was in perfect keeping; there was not a discordant form. A rainbow-tinted mist with sparkles of diamond-light playing through and above it!

How has this delightful effect been produced? What is it that gives the tone to the picture? It is, above all else, the beauty of the women, heightened and completed by their dresses. Beauty "unadorned" is a dream of Arcady; living in the present, we all acknowledge the added charm of dress fitting and beautiful; a woman elegantly dressed—as the phrase is—we all admit to be externally at her best, that is, for ordinary occasions. But it is on great and extraordinary occasions, such as a State Ball, that we most thoroughly realize the value of dress as means for setting off to the greatest advantage the beauty of woman; and we use art freely and admirably to give completeness to the adornment of natural charms. Nay, we are never satisfied till we have exhausted all the means at our command for the accomplishment of this reasonable object—or till we think we have. Unfortunately, our views on the subject of woman's dress and adornment have been limited by the barriers set up by Fashion—a system of patents and exclusiveness applied to a subject on which reason and taste dictate that there should be the most perfect freedom. The beautiful picture upon which we have been looking at the State Ball is the triumph of Fashion; it has filled us with pleasure while looking upon it; but is it perfect? Has Fashion done for every beauty in that throng

of superbly-dressed women the utmost that could have been done to set off her charms by the aid of dress? Certainly Fashion has not done this: and if we look closer into its claims to be respected, we shall find that it is open to heavy charges of evil doing, both by commission and omission.

Fashion is a tyrant under whose oppression a generation of English girls are doomed to slavery. There is no doubt about the matter. Moralists have painted the picture of the feeble, the death-stricken sempstress toiling gravely towards to produce the dress which is to give perfection to the living graces of her richer fellow mortal; the picture has been hung beneath a picture of the radiant beauty adorned by the death-labour of an unknown sister; the truth has been recognised, wept over—and forgotten. Fashion rules, and needlewomen die still, and, it may be, will go on dying; for the remedy is not easy of application, even if it is ready. Fashion's royalty is too old to be overthrown by plebeian abuse, let it come even from lips such as those of the Bishop of Oxford; and heretofore too much reliance has been placed on this weapon. "It is for the flower-show," says my Lord Bishop, in one of his addresses; "it is for the gay dancing of the painted butterfly in the summer sun; it is for such things as these that our sisters and our daughters are to be offered up at the shrine of the modern Moloch in the valley of abomination." The poor struggling, suffering sempstress gains little by such advocacy as this. We have just admitted the reasonableness of beautiful dresses for women; the question then is not whether our women shall continue to be "painted butterflies," but whether there is any real necessity for the misery of the sempstress,—for her overtask of sixteen, eighteen, or twenty hours: for her under-pay, upon which she cannot live respectably; for the thousand ills, in short, to which the present system condemns her. The evils are admitted, the remedy we fancy is ready, and the cure may be affected without the dethronement of Fashion—much as that is to be desired, on other accounts.

Ladies and their admirers now want the last fashion, regardless of its fitness, regardless of every consideration, indeed, save that it is "the last fashion." The results are to an extreme degree unsatisfactory. Individual requirements are wholly, or almost wholly, overlooked; the little woman is dressed after the model of a large woman; the short woman is furnished with skirts as wide as those worn by the tallest. What is wanted to correct this bad taste is an artist in dress, who would adapt it to the form, complexion, and character of the individual. Were there artists in dress, every lady, upon occasions such as the State Ball of Monday evening, would have her dress specially designed; for each woman has some defect to be mitigated, some beauty to be heightened by her costume—by the setting of the living picture. As long as women simply consult the oracles of Fashion, their dresses will simply be slop-clothing, produced with all the drawbacks of that kind of manufacture—readiness at the expense of careful preparation, with poverty and fatigue out of all reason to the producer. One of the cruellest hardships of the poor needlewoman is that, upon occasions of great demand, the orders for her work are not given until the last moment at which it is physically possible to execute them, the consequences being a wear and tear of mind and body too great to be long withstood. For this evil a partial remedy seems to be at hand in the development of the sewing machine; but something more can be done still.

But it is by raising the character of women's dress into a branch of art that the condition of the dressmaker would be improved. Time would be required for the elaboration of the artists' designs; thus her health would be benefited; and her work would be of a kind to command a higher payment, securing her a vast accession of comforts, beneficial to her, both morally and physically. And it is not alone upon the workwoman that the art-spirit applied to dress would tell; new refinements would grow out of it among the wearers of artistically-produced dresses; elevation of thought, new beauties of form, and even of countenance, would be developed by their use. A State Ball so dressed might, as a picture, present to the eye beauty not greater than that upon which so many eyes gazed on Monday evening, for the silks, the jewels, the complexions would remain the same; but the individual beauty would be of a completer kind—would include much beyond itself; and the details of the picture would give tangible proof of the axiom that art is labour divinely inspired. The first State Ball so

dressed will be a memorial festival to the emancipated slaves of the needle; it will celebrate another triumph—the overthrow of the idol tyrant Fashion; and its sacrifices.

AN ALISONIC ODE.

SIR ARCHIBALD ALISON is perhaps the only man in this country who can carry poetical fictions into political economy. Were the Western Bank of Scotland as poetical as that founded by Oberon, the wordy Baronet could not more apologetically disavow the "wild time" of Free Trade, or "babble of green" ledgers with greater Cameronian grace. The Western Bank, he says, conducted its business in a confidence "founded on the belief so strongly inculcated by statements made by the most respectable members of Parliament, and in the *Times* and other popular journals, that no limits could be assigned to the progress and prosperity of British commerce under the system of free trade; and that all danger of a collapse was prevented by the restrictions imposed by statute upon our currency, so that every real transaction could stand upon its own basis."

Since the poet Fitzgerald denounced Napoleon by asking,

"Who fills the butchers' shops with large blue flies,
Who makes the quatern loaf and Luddites rise;"

since Mr. Micawber referred to "tightness in the money market" as causing his own difficulty in raising a loan of five shillings, we know of nothing equal to this in the whole course of fiction. We no longer require to

"Call up him who left half told
The story of Cambuscan bold,"

for here is one who "can sit upon the ground and tell strange stories of the deaths of banks." Banks, to Sheriff Alison, are like kings; portents wide, the delusion of a whole nation, the mistakes of a mighty people, herald their fall and contribute to their demise. But if the preliminary promises of the Free-traders led shrewd Scotch bankers into evil ways, were there no other victims? Has not Commissioner Phillips ruthlessly sent back to gaol insolvent gentlemen who could have pleaded with force that, misled by Mercator and the bullionists, they had imagined "all danger of a collapse was prevented by the restrictions imposed by statute upon our currency." We imagine that even the good-humoured Commissioner Murphy would consider that such a poser as this in the mouth of an insolvent petitioner were no joke. It is equally bold and cunning. It would suggest a plea for Falstaff and Poin (mate, inglorious Gladstones, Cornwell Lewises who could not quote Latin), that by sacking the king's exchequer they were only "attempting to redress the one-sided manner in which the balances had been arranged by the Chancellor of the Exchequer." Why is not Sir Archibald Alison made Attorney-General for thieves? He would soon teach the world a new nomenclature. Fancy him before the Recorder (Hamlet defied his friends to play on recorders, but what were Rosenkrantz and Guildenstern—mere barristers of six years' standing—to a Scotch sheriff?) playing on the fine humanities of the judge and jury. Surveying mankind from China to Peru, he would find in foreign wars and gold discoveries causes which tended to tighten the money market, such tightening in a chain of causation of fine links leading to the bankruptcy for five millions of a great discount-house, the dismissal of John Jones, of Peckham, from his comfortable post, the refusal of John Jones to allow Sally Brown "a follower," the despair of such follower, and his refusal to lend Bill Sykes five shillings, "which refusal alone caused Bill Sykes, my unfortunate client, a victim of false financial theories, to pick the pocket of the prosecutor, who, owing to a providential coincidence, happened to be himself a benighted bullionist, and at that moment reading Mercator's new book." Such an appeal would have an electric effect on a jury: circumstantial evidence would break down before providential causation. In fact, we now discover that Free Trade and a gold currency are devices of Satan and Lord Overstone, and that Providence, on the whole, was on the side of Micawber during the late crisis.

NATIONAL OR LOCAL CHARITY.

MR. AYRTON'S bill tending to equalize poor-rates in the Metropolis has been lost; but the question does not fall to the ground; for it involves at once a principle, and a practical concern coming home to men's business. Is charity a local or a general

obligation? Are we to refuse pity because the pitiable do not "belong to our parish"? Is the "good Samaritan" to refuse a second rate of "two pence" for the relief of Jews? Is the "quality of mercy" to be strained so as to exclude our neighbours across the Union boundary? There is, then, the practical evil that the localization of relief makes the very poor parish support its own destitute—in other words, makes the very poor support the very poor. St. George's-in-the-East is an unfashionable neighbourhood full of cheap houses; they have the poor always with them. St. George's, Hanover-square, is a rich parish, where builders erect houses for rich people, and the poor are almost entirely excluded. The poor parish supports itself, while the rich parish does the same; and considering that one class inhabits the West-end parish and another class inhabits the parish in the East, the fiscal arrangement is practically the same as if the gentry of a county declined to support any charitable subscriptions on the ground that none of their own class required charity. St. George's, Hanover-square, says "we have little or no poor, we will pay little or no rates." The pressure of the times accumulates liabilities on the poor and suburban parishes, while the West-end parishes or the central City parishes, full of the counting-houses of the merchant princes, find their burden lightened every year. For instance, in Fulham, during the last five years, there has been an increase in the number of removable poor from 252 to 4267, and the cost has extended from 3544. to 32771, while in the parish of St. George's, Hanover-square, the amount expended for the poor remains the same as in 1830, notwithstanding the enormously increased value of property there. In addition, the removing and removability of the poor is bad policy in every way. It deters that free circulation of working men in search of employment where most plentiful, and makes the management of the poor additionally expensive.

There is a great deal to be said on the other side. If you do not give local authorities an interest in cheap management of the poor-houses, you can have no economy. Central head and local hands have always failed in money matters in this country. This argument is so strong, that with many minds it outweighs all that can be said on the other side. It is said that if you have anything like one metropolitan rate the same principle points to one national rate, and then you have the House of Commons voting, at midnight, and with the apathy succeeding some fierce personal conflict, millions to be muddled away by local guardians. The only check on the local bodies would be the tardy audit of a central bureau, while now county papers and rural Humes and village Hampdens denounce fraud and mismanagement with voices loud enough to keep the ratepayers awake. If some plan could be devised that would secure this local vigilance without unduly crushing down poor localities, we might secure a fair workable system.

RUSSIA AND OUR NORTH-WEST FRONTIER.

WHEN, at the close of the year 1856, war was declared against Persia, we pointed out that our true policy in relation to Central Asia lay, not in the direction of an aggressive expedition to the Persian Gulf, but in rendering the north-west frontier of our own Indian empire "permanently unassailable." The question, we maintained, should, on our part, be viewed defensively, not aggressively. We were interested in Herat, and in Persia herself, no further than they could be made directly or indirectly dangerous to the tranquillity of British India. Other views, however, prevailed. A British fleet, carrying an Anglo-Indian army, entered the Gulf, occupied Bushire, and eventually took Moham-meda. The declared objects of the expedition were the evacuation on the part of the Persians of the Herat territory; the humiliation, but not injury, of Persia herself; the dismissal of an obnoxious prime minister; and the destruction of Russian influence at the Court of Teheran. How have these objects been attained? The cost of the expedition amounted to nearly two millions sterling. Its drain upon our troops in India endangered, in the sequel, the existence of British rule in Hindostan. And surely this risk and this outlay should not have been incurred for nothing. Yet what are the facts of the case? Having gone to war for specified objects—having at Constantinople refused to a Persian ambassador terms pretending to be nearly all we required—having then, under the auspices of Louis Napoleon, accepted at Paris, from the

ambassadorial terms less favourable to ourselves than those rejected by us at Constantinople—having then hastily closed the war without receiving one farthing indemnity—having evacuated Persia without retaining any territorial lien—having acceded to so much—what, we repeat, is the present state of our relations in regard to Persia and Central Asia? Persia may have been humiliated, but only into hatred of us. Ferookh Khan has returned to Tehran with thirty French officers in his train. The territory of Herat is still held by the Persians, even in the face of a mission deputed by us to ascertain the truth of its evacuation. Persian influence, Persian documents are found at Delhi, inciting our own subjects to rebellion. And Russia is pressing forward more persistently, more permanently than ever, along the entire northern boundaries of Persia from the Caucasus to the Desert of Merve.

Now it is far from being our intention to irritate suspicion, or to encourage unnecessary apprehension by exaggerated statements of danger. But it is at the same time, impossible to hide from ourselves that this question of Central Asian policy, and, above all, the question of Russian influence in Asia generally, assumes every year, to every politician of intelligence, a more and more serious aspect. Before the Crimean campaign we readily accepted the assertion that the power of Russia would be exerted not in Asia, but in Europe. Russia has now tried Europe, and, by a happy mischance, has failed. Asia is still open to her. The combinations that foiled her in Europe would not recur in Asia. And in Asia she possesses, moreover, an undisturbed fulcrum both of territory and material, whence, gradually, and almost without any chance of unexpected reverse, she may hope to move and sway the whole continent. So long as serfdom continued unshaken in Russia, we clung tenaciously, though somewhat doubtfully, to the assurance that, though omnipotent at home, she was powerless for havoc abroad. But serfdom is now shaken, and is likely to pass away at no very remote period. We know, from long and bitter experience, how impracticable it is for a great civilized power to remain stationary in Asia, even when honestly desirous of so doing. We know from observation, from the accounts of travellers, from the records of our Foreign-office, and from numerous independent private sources, that Russia is at this very time striving by every possible means—among others by means of English capital—to increase and permanently maintain military lines of communication towards the banks of the Aras and the north-western provinces of Persia; that Russia has already occupied the Caspian Sea with her steamers; that her irregular troops, her forts, and her wells are to be found at convenient distances from the eastern shore of the Caspian to the Aral, and at Khiva; that Russian agents are at Herat and at Kandahar; that Russian emissaries have been found in India, and have compelled us into the adoption of a passport system; and finally, that in Tartary, even to the extreme eastern coast of Asia, Russia is pressing southward upon China. We gather from sources equally independent, and almost equally numerous, that a common impression—an impression which among half-civilized tribes ominously tends to fulfil its own prophecy—prevails in Central Asia that an invasion of British India will be undertaken, and that in that invasion they will partake. Our own officers on the frontier speak of Russian outposts being advanced so near to the Indian frontier as Khokan, and of the friendly tribes exterior to our frontier speaking openly of coming disturbance, expressing astonishment at our supineness, and admitting that they are not able to remain neutral. We find from a work* recently published, that the oldest and most distinguished military commander on our north-west frontier has from the first been emphatically of opinion that the Persian expedition was a great error; that its effects would be momentary only, would be enormously expensive, and would leave matters on our frontier of India, as regards security from threat, insult, or real attack, exactly as before. We find that General Jacob had further, and wholly unknown to us, before the commencement of the Persian war, strongly deprecated the invasion, and as strongly advocated and explained the defensive "arrangements along the frontier requisite for placing our Indian Empire in a state of permanent and increasing security and repose." Those proposed arrangements have our cordial and unqualified support. We shall quote the General's own words:—

* Views and Opinions of Brigadier-General Jacob, C.B., collected and edited by Captain Lewis Pelly, author of "Our North-West Frontier."

"At present all that is required to be done is to ensure the certainty of success and security on our own frontier. . . . I have long past thought over the subject of the arrangements proper to secure our north-western frontier."

"There are but two great roads into our Indian Empire from the north-west—but two roads, in fact, by which it is possible for a modern army to march."

"One of these, the Bolan, lies through an entirely friendly country. The Khelat territory extends to Peshawar, forty miles beyond the head of the pass, in the table-land of Afghanistan, and is inhabited by Belooch and Brahoo tribes, who are of an entirely different race from the Afghans."

"The road through the Bolan is, even at present, generally good, and sufficiently easy for an army to proceed by it, with all its artillery, stores, &c. This road is also the shortest from Herat to British India, and is the natural outlet to the ocean of the commerce of a very large portion of Central Asia."

"From the foot of the Bolan, one continuous and almost dead level plain extends for nearly six hundred miles through Kutchee and Sind to the sea."

"The only other great road, the Khyber, is very differently circumstanced. The people are unfriendly and barbarous, the country is far more difficult, and the distance greater; while there is already a strong division of our army at Peshawar, so that we are tolerably well secured in that quarter—quite sufficiently secured, indeed, under the arrangements contemplated by me, because from Quetta we could operate on the flank and rear of any army attempting to proceed towards the Khyber Pass; so that with a British force at Quetta, the other road would be shut to an invader, inasmuch as we could reach Herat itself before an invading army could even arrive at Cabool."

"Such a position would form the bastion of the front attacked, and nothing could, with hope of success, be attempted against us until this salient were disposed of. We may, I think, then, leave the Khyber without further discussion of the statistics of this road at present, and confine our attention to the Bolan."

"The more the matter is considered in all its bearings, relations, and consequences, the more certain it will appear that there should be a good British force at Quetta, a good made road from that place through the Bolan Pass to Dadur, and thence continued through Kutchee to the British frontier, to connect with the lines of road in Sind. The portion of this road from Dadur to the sea must, I think, eventually become a railway, but probably not till a very long period has passed by."

These paragraphs, with their appended summary of arrangements, contain the pith of the Central Asian question, in so far as it at present concerns us. And we acknowledge, that if the sum expended in the Persian Gulf, principally for the enrichment of the enemy, had been applied to this permanent defence of our own frontier, we should have been far better prepared when our mutiny broke out, and should now be in a condition of comparative security from external insult. We do not desire to complicate our Eastern difficulties by raising up ghosts to terrify. But we cannot forget how suddenly we were overtaken by Indian internal disorders, when our highest authorities were assuring us that India was "profoundly tranquil." We remember, also, that the same experienced soldier who, long prior to the revolt, warned us of its approach, and characterized, at the hazard of his own commission, the then condition of the Bengal army as being our greatest source of danger, now warns us, and has any time these two years been warning us, that our neglect of the north-western frontier of India is "commensurate with that" of our Indian Empire. "If," he adds, "we remain idly looking on from the valley of the Indus at Russia's Central Asiatic game, the consequences to us will be such as no statesman would wish to contemplate." Again we say, we distrust no one, and we deprecate all aggression on our side. But we warn England against being once more found sleeping on an Asiatic mine. Forewarned should this time be forarmed; and, for ourselves, we shall at least continue to raise our voice against all official and public indifference to this most serious question.

DIVORCES.

THE new Divorce Act is severing marriages with a smoothness and rapidity that may alarm men of the old school. There have been about a dozen dissolutions of marriage already. But after looking carefully into the facts of all the cases, as reported in the papers, we can see no grounds for supposing that the divorces will be worse scandals than the illegitimate estrangements they succeed. There is only one case in which we notice a dangerous characteristic of the working of the new law. A husband petitioned for divorce on account of the adultery of his wife; the divorce was granted, and it was prayed that the adulterer should be made liable

for the costs. The judge refused, because evidence was not given that the adulterer knew that the woman was a wife. Now, it seems to us that the onus of exculpatory evidence to this effect should be thrown on the actual adulterer. The adultery is in itself a bad thing done by the man, and he should be called to prove that he had not the evil intention of corrupting a wife. If you do not establish a rigid rule of this kind, you open a door to collusion, for what is there to deter men from allowing themselves to be represented as adulterers, and so serving the ends of a discordant and licentious couple, by offering apparent grounds for their divorce? The more you punish the adulterer, the more you make adultery rare and collusion impracticable.

THE COW ON THE RAILS.

IN America, a simple machine called a Cow-catcher precludes such an accident as occurred on our Trent Valley line this week. As the locomotive rushes along its single rail, passing through whole counties of pasture, or diving through a narrow lane in wide forests, it is liable every hour to find cows, with their stupid, honest faces staring at the advancing engine. The cow-catcher nearly touching the ground, lifts the cow off its legs on a kind of platform, and, by another turn, the platform capsize the cow off the road! The Americans have also secured communication between guard and driver; have established a through passage for ticket-takers and guards from end to end of the train, and by giving you a ticket, guarantee you your luggage at the end of the journey. Are we too proud to take these hints from the Yankees, or is it that the money that might be spent in life-saving mechanical inventions is squandered in fee-paying parliamentary dodges?

THE ORGAN QUESTION IN SCOTLAND.—After considerable debating, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church, sitting at Edinburgh, has decided against permitting organs to be used in churches. The question was settled in the same sense in 1856, but has been again agitated with no better success. The Synod consisted of about one thousand members, three-fourths of whom voted for the prohibition. The organ, however, has recently been introduced into some of the Independent chapels, and among the Presbyterians there is a growing feeling in favour of it.

COLONEL WAUGH.—Some allusion to the runaway Colonel, formerly of Camden House, is made in a letter by the wife of "a deceived and ruined shareholder," an extract from which is printed in the *Maidstone Journal*. According to this lady, Colonel and Mrs. Waugh are residing at Cadix. They are living in great luxury, with several servants, carriages, &c.; and the writer of the letter observes that it is impossible that Mrs. Waugh's 600*l.* a year could pay for it, and that they are said to be living on the plunder of the bank.

POPIST RIOT AT WALSALE.—A person going by the name of Baron de Camin has been recently distinguishing himself at Walsall by giving a series of lectures on Popery, at the Guildhall Assembly-room of that town. A few evenings ago, he was about to deliver one of them, when a mob of low Irishmen collected outside the hall, and, having forced open the outer door, rushed up-stairs to the lecture-room. The "Baron" was then engaged taking the money, but, upon seeing the mob enter the building, he raised an alarm, and, while a portion of the audience closed and barricaded the door of the room, the lecturer and his wife escaped by a private entrance at the back of the premises, communicating with the Dragon Hotel. No sooner had they disappeared, than a body of men inside the hall, who were evidently accomplices of the mob outside, made a signal to the latter, upon which they proceeded to the hotel where M. Camin and his wife had taken refuge, and vented their wrath in destroying the boards on which the bills announcing the lecture had been displayed. Though the police were called out, they could do nothing towards quelling the disturbance; but the Irishmen at length dispersed, on the exhortation of one of their own priests.

ELECTION EXPENSES IN VICTORIA.—According to the Victoria Electoral Proceedings Regulation Act, every candidate is compelled to advertise the amount expended by him in his election. The following is the account published by Mr. Board, the member recently returned (though not elected, there having been no opposition, for Geelong): "Election Proceedings Regulation Act, 1856.—February, 1858.—Election Expenses, George Board, Esq., To D. Harrison and Co., advertisement, 4*s.*; paid by election agent, 4*s.*—James Duncan, Election Auditor.—Geelong, March 5, 1858." *Australian and New Zealand Gazette.*

HERE JOACHIM.—This celebrated artist will perform Bach's Chaconne for the Violin, at the Concert of the Vocal Association, to take place at St. James's Hall, on Friday evening next, May 21st. The Vocal Association, of 300 voices, will also perform some of their most popular Part-Songs and Madrigals.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

THOUGH still without character as a political organ, the *North British Review* is regaining something of its old vigour in literature and science, the last number having several articles of interest in these departments. The scientific articles, however, are the best; and in these the substance is much better than the style. The first paper, for example, entitled "The Philosophy of History—Niebuhr and Sir G. C. Lewis," discusses the early history of Rome in a thoroughly scientific spirit; but the style is so stiff, pedantic, and affected, that few general readers will peruse it to the end. The writer speaks of his paper as an "epigraph." Referring to NIEBUHR's assumption that the unknown in early Roman history may be interpreted by the early history of modern nations, he says:—"It is assented to, nay urged, by even the latest of his adversaries, of whose work (which heads our *epigraph*) the avowed object is antagonistic." Take another sentence in which, as throughout the article, *sensile* is used for *sensuous*: "For idol-worship is the merely *sensile* veneration of that moral nature, which those who feel it not within them must set in matter before their senses." Here the philosophy is as bad as the construction. Further on he uses "impulsions" for impulses; "recognizance" for recognition or perception ("recognizance of sense"); "exigence" for extreme: "The real import of the perverse *exigence* is here again antagonism, the reaction of empiricism against illusory hypothesis." Again, he delights to use old verbs in obsolete senses, as "edifying" for material building, and to fabricate new ones, such as "to despotize," "to synthesize" at will. These are but a few specimens of the pedantic phraseology which the writer affects, but the construction is worse than the diction. The style is often purely execrable, many sentences being, for want of a little straightforward syntax, unintelligible. In addition to the specimens already given, take the following:—"It must be obvious that in any subject the explanation of the interior presupposes and depends upon a knowledge of the exterior. The latter aspect is exhibited spontaneously and to the senses; the other is accessible but to the intellect and by art. But as those courses of inquiry run adversely to each other, the exterior along the surface, the introverted athwart the body—the speculations are reciprocally thought to be repugnant. The extremes of oscillation are easier noted in their contrariety, than they can be in their community of subject and impulsion." One other specimen will suffice:—"We now affirm confidently that the thesis could be proved by mere induction of the Teuton, as it has been of the Roman side. The task would even be much easier, as the documents are here more ample and are *dissembled* by no *pedagogical* prepossessions of *classicality*." Despite the style, however, the article is well worth reading. It expounds the central characteristics of the Latin, Celtic, and Teutonic races in a manner which, though not so new or original as the writer supposes, is both philosophical and suggestive.

The second article on Professor OWEN, in a brief outline of his life and works, pays a just tribute of admiration and respect to the first scientific thinker of the day. Among the remaining articles is a sensible one on the Scottish Universities, a subject just now of some Parliamentary interest, to which we may probably return.

The last number of the new *British Quarterly Review* contains an excellent criticism of Mr. FROUDE's *History of England*, in which many of his conclusions are combated with great force both of evidence and logic; an interesting paper on "Gustave Planché and French Fine Art Criticism," and a very readable one on a well-worn subject—"Horace Walpole."

An English translation of M. ALEXANDRE HERZEN's remarkable pamphlet, which we noticed, as it appeared originally in French, in a recent number, has, we observe with pleasure, been published by Messrs. TRÜBNER and Co. We have received from M. HERZEN the following note respecting the mistranslation of an important sentence in his text:—

In an English translation of my pamphlet inscribed "La France on l'Angleterre?" amongst other misprints one has stolen in which disfigures the meaning of a thought. In page 17 it is said:—

"It is nothing to lack sympathy with the day of St. Bartholomew; what is wanted is sympathy with the days of September."

Now, this is quite the contrary of what I said in page 40:

"C'est peu de ne pas avoir de sympathie pour la St.-Barthélemy, il faut aussi ne pas avoir de sympathie pour les journées de Septembre."

You will oblige me, sir, by giving publicity to these lines in your widely circulated paper.

Your obedient servant,

A. HERZEN,
Editor of the *Polar Star*.

We have received the following letter from New Zealand, in reply to a suggestion thrown out by the *Leader* nine months since. We cast the bread of thought upon the waters, and it returns to us after many days:—

A review in the *Leader* for July, 1857, page 666, of "Memorials, Scientific and Literary, of Andrew Crosse, the Electrician," concludes with the significant questions, "Are the facts as he states them? If so, what is his interpretation?"

The facts could not have been otherwise than as he had stated them, inasmuch as they are explicitly described, as well as detailed with the utmost possible candour, and with every evidence of the most unquestionable truthfulness. Their interpretation is a problem requiring certain predicates as a commencement to its true solution.

1. Inorganic matter is acknowledged to be specific as regards both permanent relative weight and the number and arrangement of its atoms in a given space.

2. Organic matter is known to be generated from a cell, and not to possess, during its progress from life to death, any specific permanent relation to space, either as regards weight or the number and arrangement of its atoms.

Discarding the doctrine of chances and the infinite series of probabilities, let us proceed thus:—

No one description of inorganic matter has ever been found subsisting upon another, or converting any other into its own substance, so as that it might grow in magnitude and increase in weight. Every supposition to the contrary of this is a gratuitous assumption, wholly incapable of proof from any well-grounded facts. On this subject the union of two or more inorganic bodies with each other, as in chemical combination, so as to produce a compound body resembling neither, need not be stated as an acknowledged truth. All synthetical inorganic processes, however, whether by means of an instantaneous chemical combination or by a slow and imperceptible metamorphosis, as in the silent operations of nature, yield only substances that may again be reduced to the same quantities of their primary elements if subjected to a careful analysis. The so-called organic chemistry cannot, in this place, be taken into consideration.

Organic matter is admitted to be the product solely of organization, namely, a result which can only arise out of a pre-existing type; generation in some form, or by some union or mode of vital process being essential to its propagation no less than to its continued origination and multiplication. Organic matter, moreover, is universally acknowledged to undergo certain phases, commencing with the primitive vital cell, and thence passing through an innumerable series of mutations, until, either from age or accident, individual vitality becomes extinct. As, however, organic bodies, without any exception, prey upon each other and derive their subsistence from the consumption and assimilation of each other, their vitality being preserved by such means, with the aid of air and water as adjuncts, and by light and heat, electricity and magnetism, as auxiliaries; so, also, it follows that vitality terminates in inertia, and, therefore, that the final state of all organization is deorganization, followed by decomposition, through the agency of a series of living destroyers, from the worm, downwards, to the final undistinguishable atom.

The interpretation, then, is, that the principle attempted to have been promulgated by "Andrew Crosse, the Electrician," namely, that organic matter can be originated otherwise than as herein described—out of inorganic matter—wholly fails of being established; the reverse principle, therefore, clearly having to be admitted as the true one, namely, that the eliminations of organic bodies tend in a uniform continuity towards centring in, and that they do finally terminate in, the mineral, the metallic, or the inorganic state.

Wellington, New Zealand,
February 18, 1858.

JOHN WALLACE.

MERIVALE'S ROMAN HISTORY.

A History of the Romans under the Empire. By Charles Merivale, B.D. Vol VI. Longman and Co.

MR. MERIVALE's work approaches its completion. He has traversed the great Julian and arrived at the Flavian era; he has described the turbulent and convulsive origin of the Roman Empire, and written the biographies of the emperors, from the first Cæsar to Titus, and his sixth volume, closing upon the humiliation of Judæa, perfects the picture of an epoch extending through a hundred and twenty years of Roman history. Two hundred and fifty years form the next cycle, but here the scale of narration will necessarily be smaller, so much so, indeed, that Mr. Merivale proposes to conclude his labours in two more volumes, for he has lost the help of Tacitus; Suetonius will shortly fail him; Dion has already dwindled into an epitomist, and a few pages will exhaust the genuine historical substance contained in the Herodian and Augustan annals. He has amply described, not only the line of emperors from Cæsar to Vespasian, but the statesmen and warriors, the philosophers, poets, and princes of their times. He cannot do the same with Trajan or Hadrian, with Marius or Sulla, yet he can analyze the social and political organization, the military and legislative codes that grew up during the last epoch of imperialism, from the day when the Arch of Titus rose to commemorate the fall of Jerusalem to the collapse of the Flavian dynasty; he can depict the manners, the morals, the ideas of mankind, when heathenism was at its zenith; he can restore to the eye the laws, institutions, and rituals of Paganism when it wore the Roman purple; he can trace the dispersion of the classic myths and the rise of Christianity, and, although from the fact that the labour required will be out of all proportion to the space to be filled, a considerable interval must elapse before the two remaining volumes can make their appearance; we hope that Mr. Merivale will not withhold longer than is absolutely necessary the remaining portions of that which, in its completeness, will be a truly great work.

The sixth volume includes the reigns of Nero, Galba, Vitellius, Vespasian, and Titus—filling a period insignificant if measured by years, but unparalleled in its illustration of imperialism as carried to its climax in Rome. We have never seen so full or lucid a presentation of Nero's career. It formed no part of Gibbon's plan to draw the full-length effigy of that tyrant. Suetonius, garrulous as he is, supplies only a fragmentary account; but Mr. Merivale, drawing from every source of authority, tempering traditional statements by criticism, and working his materials into a consistent shape, has written the best biography of Nero in existence. This alone would confer upon the new volume of his history a conspicuous and permanent importance; but there are other episodes of deep interest upon which he has thrown a strong and clear light of learning and judgment—the Claudian policy in Gaul, the suppression of the Druid hierarchy, the subjugation of Britain, the insurrection of Boadicea and the Iceni, as preliminaries to the operation of that great curse which gave the Romans to Nero during fourteen infamous and miserable years. After his fall, the stormy reign of Galba, the brief struggle of Otho, roused from voluptuousness to empire, the supremacy of the glutton Vitellius, the civil war led by Vespasian, the provincial revolts, the Flavian conspiracies, and the concentration of the Roman power against Jerusalem, fill many weighty pages; but the moral of the narrative is nowhere developed in a form so imposing as in the record of Nero. The scene of his death is described in one of the most remarkable chapters we have read for many years. Mr. Merivale has not only traced the life of the Domitian despot—whose name has furnished a term of execration to

every language in Europe—from his infancy, through the gradation of his debauched youth, but has examined the pedigree of the Brazen Beards, showing it to have run parallel with a genealogy of ferocity and faithlessness, of cruelty, fraud, lust, and adultery. The father of Nero, an incestuous swindler who married the sister of Caligula, was reputed to have joked at the birth of his child, that from such a father and such a mother nothing could spring but what would be abominable and fatal to the state. The malediction had its fulfilment, and the educators of Nero did their worst to render it impossible that he should be other than a violator of divine laws and an enemy of the human species. First, they assigned him to the care of a dancer and a barber; then they clothed him in purple, laid him on a couch of down, satisfied the most insane of his caprices, amused him by immodest exhibitions, made him a sensualist while he was scarcely more than a child, and trained him up to become, while yet a youth, a deliberate fratricide. The poisoning of Britannicus was a fit inauguration of the Neronic reign, and while the young emperor mounted an undivided throne, the body of his brother was laid upon a funeral pyre, so stained and livid that it was necessary to paint the limbs that the murder might not be evident to all eyes. Dion Cassius says that a shower of rain fell, and washing off these pigments, exhibited the discoloured carcase to the people. We cannot refuse to believe, upon the testimony adduced by Mr. Merivale, that Seneca was an accomplice in this hideous crime; at all events, he was easily induced to forgive his patron and pupil, and it would appear from the statecraft with which the atrocity was contrived, that Nero had an astute confidential adviser when he employed Locusta to mix such a potion as would strike young Britannicus dead whenever it touched his lips. Yet Nero has had his apologists. There have been those who have regarded his reign as one of comparative glory, and derided the invective of Suetonius; but we can discover no single point in the character of the emperor, or in the influence he exerted upon his contemporaries, which was not corrupt, degraded, and vicious. A brawler in the public streets, depraved in private life, a monstrous and vulgar egotist, unnatural in his affections, first contemplating the debauch and next effecting the assassination of his own mother, he rode in state through the streets of Rome while secret hands hung the parricide's sack upon his statue, and while the names of matricides were placarded almost in ghastly jest upon the walls. What was this but demoralization in its most odious form? The imperial court became one enormous lupanar, and the courtiers were buffoons, dancers, singers, and female posture-makers, with the emperor among them in the disguise of a god, sometimes descending on the stage to sing with a husky voice, out of his thick and bovine throat, his own verses and those of Seneca. The empire was an empire of baths, games, and prostitution. Into the midst of this profligate levity intrudes the bloody image of Octavia, Nero's half-sister, whom he first seduced, and then, as usual, murdered. "The poor child," says Mr. Merivale, "had not yet attained her twentieth year" when she was seized and bound; her veins were opened, and the life struggling in her body longer than her assassins expected, she was stifled in a warm bath and decapitated, and her head sent as a trophy to Julia Poppæa. The lying Tigellinus acted as chief agent in this ungrateful murder. Mr. Merivale, without the introduction of repulsive details or apocryphal anecdotes, illustrates with wonderful force the progression of Nero's abasement, from his mock marriage with a male parasite to his death—an episode of unprecedented humiliation and infamy. There is a strange moral in that last degradation of the last Cæsar: starting from his table, taking poison from Locusta, who prepared the draught for Britannicus, taunted by his soldiers, without a friend to despatch him, creeping reluctantly to the necessity of suicide, urged by his slaves to die, measuring his own grave, finding every possible excuse for delay, pleading in extenuation of his pusillanimity for moments of preparation, and only urged to plant in his breast a dagger which he dared not drive home when he read the decree sentencing him to perish "in the ancient fashion." He asked what that was, and was informed that the culprit was stripped, his head placed in a fork, and his body smitten with the stick till death. Yet he might say then, as his successor said, "I was once emperor." The Romans had pronounced him all but divine, the people had shouted round his chariot, the civilized world had exhausted its flattery upon him, the senate had been his footstool, and the army his throne.

The natural workings of Lower Roman imperialism are minutely and with philosophical precision traced by Mr. Merivale, who does not forget, while drawing the portrait of Nero, to stigmatize that corruption of ideas and manners which enabled him to be what he was. He points—and this is the most valuable chapter in his new volume—to the fallacies and sophisms by which men are insincerely reconciled to despotism. Nero, without foreign allies to support him, with an armed patrician constituency, alone at the head of a warlike and powerful nation, was master and tyrant, armed with authority to insult the best, to oppress and plunder all, to offend nature, to commit matricide, to compel the nobles of Rome to bleed themselves to death—a class of mandates with which the Chinese and Japanese are familiar—and Mr. Merivale asks why was this? The view he takes is, that the worst enormities of the emperor were unknown to the mass of the people, which is probable, and that even when public men were unjustly put to death the agonies of their execution were shrouded from the popular sight. But beyond this and every other reason was, that the Romans were debased, that the masters of slaves had become accustomed to slavery, that the women who scourged their handmaids for an error in the adornment of their hair could have no heroic or decent pride, that the multitude in the circus could have no patriotic feeling, that the Romans loved power more than liberty, and luxury more than either, and their poetry and philosophy felt the influence of this voluptuous servility. Stoicism was unequal to the task of overcoming the license and sensuality of the empire. It needed a nobler race and a grander creed to create another free community in Europe. A century of imperialism rendered it impossible that Rome should not abdicate her historical position, and here is the lesson enforced by Mr. Merivale, whose masterly narration, written with a singular strength and polish of style, is a work which the youth of England may study with confidence and with admiration.

MR. FORSTER'S ESSAYS.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

Historical and Biographical Essays. By John Forster. 2 vols. John Murray. It is no discredit to a writer or reader of history that he has forgotten, or never studied, Rapin. Mr. Forster, however, may be surprised to learn that in the work of that old-fashioned compiler, as well as in Rushworth, the Grand Remonstrance is printed textually, a fact which we have remembered accidentally upon perusing his analysis and chronicle of the glorious document, worthy to stand between Magna Charta and the Bill of Rights among the state papers of England. It is good for the mind, in these days of factious insincerity, fiction, and timid compromise, to read the narrative of those grand debates which brought up Pym and Hampden, Hyde and Culpeper, Falkland, Cromwell, and the giants of their days, who laid the foundations of two centuries of progressive and enlightened law, and it is of special interest to note the variations of the mighty discussion. It will be remarked as an important passage in the history of the Grand Remonstrance that the Commons then established their right to remonstrate independently of the Lords, a right questioned by old Sir John Culpeper, but vindicated by the majority.

Mr. Forster's Essay on the Plantagenets and the Tudors, published for the first time in these volumes, is a criticism on the constitutional history of a period to which he traces an important branch in the genealogy of English freedom. He aims at showing that party spirit, in its strict sense, arose in England so early as the reign of John; that the Great Charter then sanctioned created no rights, but declared and defined them; that under the first line of Plantagenets a popular element had forced itself into the councils of the state; that ministerial responsibility and parliamentary control existed when the opposition barons drove the Poitevin Bishop of Winchester across the sea, but that the constitution of parliament, even when these principles had begun to prevail, was essentially feudal. The immediate vassals of the Crown, representing certain land, possessed the personal right to be present in Parliament. By a fiction, indeed, but a fiction of invaluable influence in after years, *villains* were supposed to sit in the assemblage of earls, barons, knights, and freemen. "Is it difficult to discover," says Mr. Forster "throughout these efforts of Norman royalty to check the excess of its ministers and obtain the co-operation of its people, the vague formation of that authority and House of the Commons, which was to prove more formidable than either of the powers it was called into existence to control?" It was not long before the faint outlines were fixed distinctly upon public law and practice. In the thirty-eighth of Henry III. the principles of a real representation had become part of the constitution of the realm. "As of right the commonalty took, and they kept, the place to which they were called," and through the reigns of the first and second Edwards and their successors, their hold grew firmer upon the institutions they so largely assisted to improve, strengthen, and sustain. The seventy parliaments summoned by the third Edward erected a basis which might be shaken but could never be overthrown. Tracing the process by which the feudal system was extinguished, Mr. Forster has some excellent comments on the rebellions of Tyler and Cade, unwritten chapters in the history of England, and he does no injustice to the body of the insurgents, to their chiefs, or to the results of those important but misunderstood movements. Passing on to the reign of Elizabeth, his estimate of the queen is high, though not higher, perhaps, than the records warrant; while speaking of the first James, he presents the big-headed and little-legged mannikin in all the elaborate deformity of his dirt, pedantry, baggy-breeches, clumsy, uncouth, shambling figure, "goggle eyes," "slobbering tongue," red face, sandy head, and jabber of incessant vanity. Oliver Cromwell might have derived his first idea of divine right from the spectacle of this Guy at Hinchinbrook.

It will have been noticed that Mr. Forster discusses from an original point of view many controverted questions in connexion with English constitutional history. We must now, however, lay aside these masterly and fascinating volumes, repeating that, although the second is composed of reprinted essays, with large revisions, the contents of the first are almost entirely new.

In a part of our impression last week the publication of this work was, by a clerical error, incorrectly assigned. We therefore deem it a duty to emphasize the announcement that Mr. Forster's *Historical and Biographical Essays* are published by Mr. John Murray.

THE ANCIENTS AND THE MODERNS.

Histoire de la Querelle des Anciens et des Modernes. Par Hippolyte Rigault.

Paris: Hachette.

THE controversy as to whether the ancients were or were not superior to the moderns may be said now to have completely died away. There has been no award on either side. People have simply discovered that the dispute ought never to have taken place, because, unless every ancient is superior to every modern, or every modern superior to every ancient, the whole question is one of appreciation of individuals. The methods and tendencies of classical times are not so different from the methods and tendencies of all modern times as to justify anything more than a chronological division. The only difference between the early literature of the world and the later is, that human knowledge and experience have increased, and it may now, perhaps, require a mind of greater grasp to deal with all the facts presented to it, and at the same time give due attention to form. Life is at present no longer than it was, whilst the requirements of art are more vast.

The critics, however, whose disputes M. Rigault records in this interesting and exhaustive volume, were wanting in the impartiality which would have put an end to the controversy at once. In every case they became hot partisans; and, as those who took sides for the ancients maintained an opinion offensive to human pride and really puerile in itself, it is not surprising that they have at length succeeded in disgusting the public with classical literature altogether, whilst at the same time the advocates of the

moderns, by their interference and general superficiality of learning, have talked themselves into utter oblivion.

All this debate, however, though carried on upon false principles, could not fail to assist in the progress of refinement, as well as in the liberation of taste from the influence of fixed models. It began in the seventeenth century, when the revival of letters, which was nothing, in fact, but a renewed and extended acquaintance with classical literature, had at last produced all its results. We refer principally to France, the chief scene of this curious controversy. Under the reign of Louis XIV. a sort of revolution had become necessary. Most of the writers of that much-vaunted period had ceased to think in literature of anything but mere style in the narrowest sense of the word. The highest object that genius could aim at was, "imitation of the ancients." It was forgotten that this imitation may be recommended to young writers, as copying the old masters may be recommended to young painters; but that after all, in literature as in art, it is Nature we must take as our model. Nature was quite set aside, and little was thought of but agreeable arrangements of words. Of course, even with this false system a man of genius cannot avoid showing himself; but it is quite surprising, if we examine attentively even the best productions of the Grand Siècle, to see how slight is the impression produced upon them by contemporary society—how full they are of reminiscences of a state of things that has passed away. A great part of that literature is "adapted" from the classics, pretty nearly by the same process that our playwrights now adapt French pieces for the English stage. Greek and Roman sentiments and morality are oddly mixed with modern allusions.

A reaction against this state of things was necessary. It came from a quarter where the idea of progress had been conceived more by instinct than reason. M. Rigault, with the patience and the taste which have won him his eminent position as a critic, has studied all the episodes of this reaction, and gives us here the results in a volume which we have read with great pleasure. Sometimes, it is true, the interest languishes; but this is because the same topics, only varied by varying treatment, necessarily recur at all the different stages of the controversy. One of the best parts of the book is the narrative of what M. Rigault calls "The English Period of the Quarrel between the Ancients and the Moderns," beginning with the residence of Saint-Evremond in England, and ending with an analysis of Swift's famous *Battle of the Books*. We suspect that the present generation of readers in France will hear for the first time of "slashing Bentley," and the part he played in a discussion which, however puerile in its apparent object, has exercised such a decisive influence on the fortunes of French literature. We can bear testimony to the accuracy of this portion of M. Rigault's narrative.

Indeed, the characteristic of the whole work is care united with elegance. We recommend whoever would understand the subject it treats of to go no farther. He will here find everything that he wishes to know brought together in the best manner. One anecdote is told of two Roman nobles who once had a serious quarrel as to the pre-eminence of Tasso over Ariosto. A duel ensued, and the partisan of Ariosto received a mortal wound. Pope Benedict XIV. went to visit him on his death-bed. "Alas!" said he, "is it possible that I must die in the prime of my manhood for the sake of Ariosto, whom I have never read? Even if I had read him, I should not have understood him; for I am too great a fool." So saying, he gave up the ghost. The quarrel between the friends of the Ancients and the friends of the Moderns sometimes reminds us of this serio-comic incident. But it gave occasion for the elucidation of some of the most important principles of criticism. Grimm once said that the dispute had never produced a good book. He was mistaken then; but he would be still more mistaken now. The book of M. Rigault is a very good book indeed.

NOVELETTES.

For and Against; or, Queen Margaret's Badge. A Domestic Chronicle of the Fifteenth Century. By Frances M. Wilbraham. 2 vols. (J. W. Parker and Son.)—It seemed all but impossible that a romantic interest should be revived in the wars of the Roses. They had been pillaged by novelists and dramatists, and the principal characters of the history had been presented in every variety of development; but a careful student and an inventive writer has produced a story which, though its incidents belong to that time-worn period, is new in construction, colour, and spirit. Miss Wilbraham, unlike the generality of historical romancists, has not been content to search through a few manuals, but has outlined and filled in her pictures with antiquarian accuracy, avoiding anachronisms, and concentrating upon her scene the real light of the fifteenth century. She herself, aided by suggestions from the chroniclers, has contrived the narrative, but Paston, Barante, Fosbrooke, Lydgate, Chaucer, Drayton, Ormerod, and others, have furnished the details, the forms and tints of the costume and furniture, the aspects of villages and towns, the modes of speech, the court ceremonies, the fashions of hospitality, chivalry, and festivals. All this is wrought without pedantry into the progression of the tale, which is partly, as the title-page signifies, of a domestic tenor, while partly it moves across the broad stage of history, the artistic restorations being everywhere finished with meritorious integrity, and with really admirable effect. In the delineation of her feminine characters the author has been peculiarly successful. *For and Against* is precisely a book to lie on family tables.

The Cruellest Wrong of All. By the Author of "Margaret; or, Prejudice at Home." (Smith, Elder, and Co.)—The writer of this tale has mastered the secret of that sort of interest which flutters circulating-library readers. The cruellest wrong of all is the wrong inflicted upon the heart of a woman, and it is dwelt upon and painfully illustrated in the history of the heroine, whose career alternates between fashionable and unfashionable circles, and whose ultimate human destiny is regulated upon a principle which satisfies poetical justice without dispersing the general sadness of the book. To this sadness is attributable, in a great degree, the interest of *The Cruellest Wrong of All*, for the author has a pathetic vein, and there is a tender sweetness in the tone of her narration. Sometimes this becomes morbid, and too often

the fitting shadows fall upon incidents trite in themselves and not originally turned to the purpose of this particular story; but these faults do not interfere with the general merit of the work as readable and entertaining.

Likes and Dislikes. Some Passages in the Life of Emily Marsden. (J. W. Parker and Son.)—Two-thirds of this volume are occupied with an account of a family tour in Germany. There is scarcely any story, the writer's apparent object being to develop quietly and naturally a number of characters belonging to modern life, and to unravel some of the problems of passion and caprice at work in all ages and among all classes of society. Thus, although the plot is the simplest conceivable—being summed up in the popular phrase, *Who would have thought it?*—an interest is gradually created which is sustained to the last chapter. As to the continental wanderings of the Marsdens and the Digbys, they supply at once the basis of a charming domestic tale and of a most intelligent narrative of travel, for we seldom meet with criticism so suggestive, or gossip so pleasant, in the diaries of ordinary tourists. To say the truth, the authoress paints the panorama of Austrian travel, the imperial establishments, the châteaux of the blue-blooded race, the manners of the burgher-classes, the peasantry and innkeepers, the material forms of civilization in vogue, and whatever else an observant English visitor might be expected to notice, and this is done with so much correctness, and with so little effort, that there has evidently been no compilation in the matter. It is rarely that a volume of fiction can be praised as informing as well as amusing; but this quality belongs to *Likes and Dislikes*. In the second part—"At Home"—the incidents are dramatized upon a slightly more romantic level, and the "waver-morris" of cross-purposes becomes more exciting, until a climax arrives, very cheerful in its influence upon the reader no less than upon Emily Marsden and the excellent people at the Oaks, with the sweet young girls and the thoroughly English young men who are to make them happy. The book is full of grace and fascination.

Easton and its Inhabitants; or, Sketches of Life in a Country Town. By L. E. (Booth.)—We are afraid that Easton is a country town to be found under another name on the map of England, and that L. E. has been photographing the old maids, gentlemen of all ages, and ball-room beauties of that locality. Such a group has evidently not been drawn entirely from imagination, although there is an inevitable heightening of characteristics and exaggeration, so to speak, of birth-marks and eccentricities. The portraits are judiciously varied, and the individuals are made to go through long exercises of babble and scandal, as if the writer intended to expose their frailties. We hope that *Easton and its Inhabitants* was written with no vicious intention, and that we are doing no harm in directing attention to its lively pages.

PUBLICATIONS AND REPUBLICATIONS.

The destiny of Piedmont, as the vanguard of Italian independence, is an object of lively interest and solicitude to Englishmen. We are daily more and more anxious to get at the realities of Italian life and character, so as to be able to form an estimate of the capabilities of the race for a free national existence in modern Europe. Mr. Gallenga, whose name is well and favourably known to English literature, has intimately studied the Italian character in Piedmont, his "country by blood," he says, "if not by birth," and he has "looked for it, not in the worn types of a populous town, but in the more primitive forms of a rural district." Mr. Gallenga, it appears, has from circumstances to which we need not more particularly refer, retired from public life in Piedmont, and has returned to settle in England, his adopted country; still, in nourishing and stimulating English sympathies in behalf of Italy, he is doing good service to the cause that must ever be nearest to his heart. Mr. Gallenga is one of those Italians who have acquired a perfect mastery of our language, and he writes English in a free, lively, and generous style. We shall read his new volume, *Country Life in Piedmont* (Chapman and Hall), with great interest and attention, and we shall be glad to give an early account of its pages to our readers, many of whom, we dare say, will anticipate our judgment, and read it for themselves.

In and Around Stamboul, by Mrs. Edmund Hornby (2 vols., Bentley), is a description of life in Turkey in 1855 and 1856, arranged in a series of easy familiar letters from the authoress to her family and friends at home. Turkey has been a little overdone by tourists, but the dates of these letters suggest new points of view and incidents worth recording.

Intellectual Education, and its Influence upon the Character and Happiness of Women, by Emily Shirreff, one of the authors of "Thoughts on Self-Culture" (J. W. Parker and Son), seems to merit, by the gravity of its purport and the serious earnestness of tone that pervades it, a thoughtful and attentive perusal.

Dr. W. T. Gardiner has published a course of lectures *On Medicine and Medical Education* (Sutherland and Knox), delivered at the commencement of the medical session, 1856-57, before the students of the Edinburgh medical school. The text of the lectures, as delivered, is in their published form considerably amplified and amended.

Another *Cookery-Book*! No wonder, if it be true that cookery-books fetch the best prices in the book trade. The present treatise appears to possess the merit of being eminently simple and practical, and the portrait which represents Mrs. Ann Smith, the authoress, in a most cheerful and comfortable shape, and with the kindest and homeliest of faces, decidedly bespeaks our critical good-will. Mrs. Ann Smith has served in the kitchen batteries for forty years, and among the mottoes inscribed on her flag may be remarked, "Mansion-house; Carroll, Lord Mayor." The good lady's experience has an honest claim, therefore, to our attention, and she has had the sound sense to put the results of her culinary experience into her own plain language. But when Mrs. Smith begs of the public not to censure her work until they have tried her receipts, we must, as conscientious critics, respectfully deprecate such an attack upon our honesty. How can we censure Mrs. Smith after tasting all the good things so seductively set forth in her pages? The whole title of her book is as follows:—*Practical and Economical Cookery, with a Series of Bills of Fare; also, Directions on Carving,*

Trustring, &c., by Mrs. Smith, Forty Years Professed Cook to most of the Leading Families in the Metropolis (Chapman and Hall).

The Initials, by the Author of "Quits," is a new and cheap edition (Bentley) of a successful novel by an English lady married in Germany, who writes with picturesque freshness and originality.

The Arts.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

No exhibition of the ROYAL ACADEMY, since the first year of Pre-Raphaelism, and of the *Leader's* existence, has presented so many points for notice as does the exhibition which is now open. The year 1850 was not, indeed, remarkable for the number of its important pictures. On the contrary, it was a bad year for art, except—and we acknowledge the greatness of the exception—that it brought the Pre-Raphaelite brotherhood before the world. Academical dulness had culminated just at that period; and the crude, inchoate idea of Pre-Raphaelism was, by natural consequences, the more startling. But the simple earnestness which characterized these juvenile fathers of a strange school was not long in gaining proselytes from the ranks of their stoutest opponents. About midway between the Pre-Raphaelite year, 1850, and the present time, it was perceived that the heaven of Pre-Raphaelism had begun to change the character of these annual competitions. And now that the fraternity has got clear of its early encumbrances, there are few who withhold from its members the credit of having, at the very least, set the great body of English painters thinking how they might contrive to make their pictures more faithful to Nature. In truth, we believe that the praxis of Mr. MILLAIS (supposing him to represent Pre-Raphaelism as its original leader) has been to a greater or less extent adopted by very many painters whose names were famous a long while before Pre-Raphaelism was heard of.

Mr. Hook is clearly one of these. He may, like Mr. PATON and Mr. LEWIS, conscientiously object to being classed with the followers of Mr. MILLAIS; but for all that, the pictures of Mr. Hook are decidedly Pre-Raphaelite. He has three this year; and it is difficult to say which is best. The beautiful and finely-named "Pastoral" (326), at once realistic and imaginative, comes with most freshness after the scenes of coast-life which he gave us last year; but we cannot pronounce it intrinsically superior to either of its fellows. What is most praiseworthy in all three pictures is the just distribution and apportionment of work. The "landscape-painter" and the "figure-painter," so completely distinct as we too often find them, are blended in Mr. Hook. The false and foolish practice of splitting art into several avocations—a practice which Mr. THACKERAY has ridiculed in the person of a distinguished Royal Academician who declined to give any opinion with respect to the outline of a horse on the ground that "he was not an animal-painter"—is most glaringly displayed in the matter of landscape-painting. Until lately, that is to say, until the principle of the Pre-Raphaelites had become dominant, it was held quite excusable in a painter of landscapes to show the most complete innocence of the human form. This has always been the one great blemish in the works of Mr. ANTHONY, and it may possibly explain the singular reticence of Mr. RUSKIN with regard to that most original and refreshing artist. To return to Mr. Hook's "Pastoral," we notice with satisfaction that the poetry, like the poetry of TENNYSON's *May Queen*, is in accord with modern objects and modern ideas. The couplet from Spenser, nevertheless—

Then blow your pyres, shepherds, till you be at home;
The night highest fast, yis time to begone—

seems no anachronism. The "Coast Boy gathering Eggs" (453) calls to mind Shakespeare's picture of the samphire-gatherer, suspended half-way down a precipitous height. On a jutting ledge of rock nearest the spectator is a basket containing the eggs, perhaps a trifle exaggerated in size, which the boy is supposed to have collected. A sea-gull swirls at his feet, and appears to be screaming an angry protest against the spoliation. The third picture by Mr. Hook has no title in the catalogue, but its character is indicated by the fine verse from Proverbs—"Children's children are the crown of old men, and the glory of children are their fathers." In this picture, which is numbered in the catalogue 232, the artist carries out successfully a method of colouring which Mr. REDGRAVE has tried with only partial effect. The tone is at once bright, deep, and full. The care so tenderly bestowed on the painting of grasses, pebbles, moss, and other natural minutiae, never becomes dry and formal with Mr. Hook as it is apt to become with painters who finish their works very highly.

Mr. O'NEILL was always a painstaking artist; but he never appeared to us a very powerful one until we saw his picture "Eastward Ho!—August, 1857" (384). It is the scene of troops embarking for India, with the leave-takings at the ship's side, down which the friends of officers and private soldiers are making their way into the boats which are to take them back again to shore. In

venturing upon a far bolder effort than he had yet made, this artist has relinquished none of his habitual care and delicacy. It is curious to observe the coincidence of subjects this year. We do not mean the old selections which occur regularly every year; but themes derived from actual experience or suggested by some prevalent state of popular feeling. There are the two pictures by Mr. LUARD, painted under the influence of the same sentiment as that which has animated Mr. O'NEILL. "The Girl I left behind Me" (242) is an ambiguous name for a picture which contains two sisterly figures, embracing sorrowfully in front of a mirror, which mirror is made to reflect an open window and the street beyond, and a regiment marching past. The girls whom Mr. LUARD or somebody else has left behind, have, it is easy to perceive, just turned away from the window, and are preparing to indulge in decorous grief. "Nearing Home" (444) has greater merit than Mr. LUARD's other picture. The scene is the deck of a vessel, on which an invalid officer, tended by a young lady, is taking the air. A land-bird has alighted near his feet, and he, as well as other passengers, watches the sign with evident delight. The character of the entire composition is that of a picture painted by an artistic traveller rather than a travelling artist. We believe that in thus describing an appearance we are indicating a fact. While before this picture of Mr. LUARD's, we may as well mention that a calmly beautiful view of Lulworth Cove, Dorsetshire (445), hangs next it. As a piece of landscape-painting of the honest kind it will raise the name of the artist, Mr. FENN. A kindred work, though the scenery is of a different character, is "The Warren" (526), painted by Mr. OAKES.

One of the ideas which, as we have remarked, have struck two or more painters, is the idea of "Paillasse" in his private relations. It has been discovered that our friend the mountebank has private relations, together with organs, senses, dimensions, affections, like any other man. So the antithesis of tumbling and tribulation, of care and motley, serves the painter for easy moralizing. There is the vagabond element strongest and uppermost of all the elements in Mr. FENN's already famous "Derby Day" (218), where we have the episode of a hungry little Pierrot diverted from his performance by the sight of pigeon-pie. Miss SOLOMON has worked out the same little bit of cheap philosophy and sentiment in the picture called "Behind the Curtain" (1094); and then there is Mr. CARRICK's "Weary Life" (300), very much in the style and feeling of Miss SOLOMON's work. Of a better, truer school of thought, is that sternly sad picture, by Mr. WALLIS, of the stone-breaker who has died at his work. Strangely, this picture has its correlative in another Pre-Raphaelite work, by Mr. BART, called the "Stone-breaker" (1089); only Mr. BART's is a living stone-breaker, not a dead one. Mr. WALLIS does not give any name to his picture, but quotes one of CARLYLE's grandly pathetic outbursts from *Sartor Resartus*. The indistinctness of the form as it lies in the gloom and awful stillness of gathering night; the dark, silent, melancholy landscape, with its low mountain range reflected solemnly in the water and closing in the scene, are conceptions of the most truly poetical nature. One object, which we fear may be misinterpreted (though not from any fault of the painter), is the lean, hungry stoat, slinking towards the dead man. We do not read this incidental feature as a horrible fact, but as a profoundly suggestive type and embodiment of famine triumphing over humanity. We do not find that Mr. EGG's "Triptych" (372) quite justifies, on inspection, the praise generally lavished upon it. By this time all readers know that the subject is a wife's frailty and her terrible punishment. The central picture contains the scene of the discovery and its first consequence; the husband sitting at a table, his pale face fixed in an expression of unforgiving hopelessness, and sunk in a stupefaction of dismay, his hand clutching the intercepted note; his wife, a richly dressed woman in the pride of still youthful beauty, prostrate at his feet; their children, arrested in their play, gazing wonder-stricken. On either side of this group is a scene denoting the misery which has pursued the adulteress, and the sorrow which has fallen on her children. She herself, bearing a meagre babe at her breast, crouches in one of the horrible river-side recesses of our city's main thoroughfare—in one of the dark arches, that is to say, of the Adelphi. The third compartment holds a contemporary picture of the young daughters of that wretched pair, sitting at their bedroom window and gazing on the same moonlit river which flows by their fallen mother's feet. The father has recently died, and the orphans mourn a double loss. In carrying out his painful theme, Mr. EGG has shown much aptitude for histrionic grouping; but he has, in more than one point, betrayed a very careless habit of dealing with plain facts. To take one glaring instance from the middle picture: there is the card-house which the children have built, and which is falling beneath their hands, in an obviously symbolical, but not by any means practicable, manner. While the foundation has disappeared, the superstructure remains firmly balanced, the apex of the two top cards being preserved as rigidly as if their base rested on a steady, even surface. That this could not occur for the briefest possible space of time we need not insist.

Each time that we look at Mr. J. CLARK's picture, the "Doctor's Visit" (69), our admiration of its unaffected, simple pathos, and perfect truth of incident increases. It is so complete a picture that criticism is felt to be here a matter of fact, and not in any way dependent upon mere liking of this or that school. The characteristic, indeed, of the design is, that it leaves no doubt as to the universal approval of all who may see it.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.—All the wire of the Atlantic telegraph is out of the tanks at Keyham. After the Niagara has received one hundred and forty-two miles from the steam-vessel *Adonis*, which arrived from the Thames last Saturday, and forty miles now in completion at the manufactory, her portion will be on board. From Newfoundland there is telegraphic communication with New Orleans, distant 8710 miles following the course of the wire; and, when the Atlantic cable is laid, direct communication will be had with Constantinople, thus uniting the four continents. It is calculated that a message leaving the Turkish capital at two o'clock in the afternoon will reach New Orleans at six o'clock the same evening. The first message from Constantinople direct left on Sunday evening, May 2, at 11.45, and arrived in London at 8.57 in the evening of the same day, London time, beating the sun nearly three hours. The departure of the ships on the experimental cruise will probably take place on the 25th inst. Mr. Whitehouse, the company's electrician, proposes to use on board each ship a battery which shall be so arranged as to throw a current constantly into the wire, and thus keep it what is termed "permanently charged" by "current equilibrium." By this method, either vessel

will, it is expected, be able to ascertain at any time if the wire is receiving a current from the other, without waiting for a definite signal.

A MAD LETTER-WRITER TO THE QUEEN.—A gentleman from Hereford, who has practised as an architect, has been arrested in London on a charge of writing a letter to the Queen, in which he required of her Majesty to render up to him her office as head of the Church, as Christ had specially deputed him to that service. It is needless to say that he is insane; and it appears that, since he was taken into custody, he has been very violent.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

HAMILTON.—On the 13th March last, at Mount Macedon, Melbourne, Victoria, the wife of Thomas Ferrier Hamilton, Esq., a son.

MONKLAND.—On the 21st March, at Bellary, Madras Presidency, the wife of Col. Monkland, 74th Highlanders: a son.

RUMBALL.—On the 5th inst., at Lisbon, the wife of Thomas Rumball, Esq.: a son.

MARRIAGES.

CROSS—RUSSELL.—On Tuesday, the 4th inst., at St. Mary's, Charlbury, Oxon, the Rev. John Cross, of Charl-

bury, to Anne Maria, youngest daughter of Thomas Russell, Esq., of Chertsey, Surrey.

SAFFERY—DUNN.—On the 11th inst., Joseph John, eldest son of John Saffery, Esq., of Hackney, to Mary Elizabeth, daughter of J. M. Dunn, Esq., of King-street, Finsbury-square.

DEATHS.

BENISON.—On the 3rd March last, at Hobart Town, Tasmania, of inflammation of the brain, Robert William, eldest son of Paymaster Samuel Benison, of H.M.'s 89th Regiment of Foot.

MAXWELL.—On the 26th March, at the Island of St. Thomas, W. I., of yellow fever, William Maxwell, 4th officer in the Royal West India Mail Steam Packet Company, in the 22nd year of his age, third son of J. G. Maxwell, Esq., of Oaklands, Devon.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, May 14.

THERE has been a disposition to recede in the funds all the week; the uncertain state of the Ministry, which would seem to live from day to day, and the renewed drain of gold to the Continent are causes that explain the weakness of the funds. There is, doubtless, a very considerable Bear

party, and the public sells pretty freely at these high prices. Foreign stocks are affected slightly by the drop in the funds. Turkish 8½ per Cent. stock, with the prospect of a new loan that is talked about, are one per cent. lower.

French and foreign railway shares are weak. Grand Trunk of Canada and Great Western of Canada about 1 per share worse.

In the Indian shares there is a fall of two to three per cent. Heavy shares are bad, owing to the diminution of traffic receipts, which continue steadily decreasing. The Caledonian shares are 4½, and rather better supported than Dovers and Berwick, Yorks, &c.

The mining market is almost a dead letter as regards business. No alteration of moment in joint-stock banks or miscellaneous shares.

Blackburn, 9½, 10½; Caledonian, 8½, 8½; Chester and Holyhead, 55, 57; Eastern Counties, 60½, 61½; Great Northern, 104, 104½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 101, 103; Great Western, 54½, 55½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 91½, 92; London and Blackwall, 6, 6½; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 107, 108; London and North-Western, 93½, 94½; London and South-Western, 95½, 96½; Midland, 92½, 93½; North-Eastern (Berwick), 92½, 93½; South-Eastern (Dover), 69, 70; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 61, 61½; Dutch Rhenish, 5, 4½; dis.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 25, 25½; Great Central of France, —; Great Luxembourg, 7½, 8½; Northern of France, 37½, 37½; Paris and Lyons, 30, 30½; Royal Danish, —; Royal Swedish 1, 1½; Sambre and Meuse, 8, 8½.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	223	221½	223	221½	222½	221
3 per Cent. Red.....	96½	96½	96½	95½	95½	95½
3 per Cent. Con. An.	97½	97½	97½	96½	95½	97½
Consols for Account	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
New 3 per Cent. An.	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½	95½
New 2½ per Cent. An.	—	—	—	—	—	80½
Long Ann. 1850.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
India Stock.....	228½	224	224	225	225	—
Ditto Bonds, £1000	20 p	21 p	24 p	—	—	22
Ditto, under £1000	20 p	—	—	—	—	24
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	43 p	40 p	37 p	40 p	41 p	37 p
Ditto, £500.....	—	—	—	—	—	40 p
Ditto, Small.....	40 p	—	—	—	—	40 p

FOREIGN FUNDS.

LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.)

Brazilian Bonds.....	—	Portuguese 4 per Cents. ...	—
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents	—	Russian Bonds, 5 per	—
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	—	Cents.....	—
Chilian 3 per Cents.....	—	Russian 4½ per Cents.....	101½
Dutch 2½ per Cents.....	62½	Spanish Comm. 4½ per	—
Dutch 4 per Cent. Cortf.	—	Spanish Comm. 4½ per	—
Ecuador Bonds.....	—	of Coup. not fun.....	—
Mexican Account.....	20½	Turkish 6 per Cents.....	96½
Peruvian 4½ per Cents.....	—	Turkish New, 4½ ditto.....	—
Portuguese 3 per Cents.....	—	Venezuela 4½ per Cents.....	—

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, May 14.

THE arrivals of English wheat have been moderate, and the show of samples limited. The demand ruled inactive. The imports of foreign wheat are 5640 quarters, and the supply on offer was extensive. All descriptions met a dull inquiry. Scarcely any English barley was on show, and the supply of foreign was only moderate. Fine malt supported former terms, but inferior parcels were dull. We were but heavily supplied with foreign oats, and beans, peas, and flour met a slow trade, on former terms.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, May 11.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—JAMES EDWIN HUDSON JOLIFFE, Bristol, chemist.

BANKRUPT.—HENRY WILLIAM ATKINSON and THOMAS WILLIAM KING, Sutherland-gardens, Malda-vaie, Paddington, builders—SAMUEL JOHN RUMCHAM, Paradise-street, Rotherhithe, corn dealer—WILLIAM BIGGS, Jun., West Ham, Essex, cutler—THOMAS ROOK, Gibraltar-walk, Bethnal-green, and Victoria-wharf, Earl-street, Blackfriars, contractor—WILLIAM TOLLIT, Hillingdon and Uxbridge, Middlesex, livery stable keeper—WILLIAM WHEELER, Broadway, and RICHARD WHEELER, Evesham, Worcester-shire, corn merchants—JOHN CLARKE MORGAN, Hereford, innkeeper—JAMES ALEXANDER WILLS, Birmingham, saddler—RICHARD SEATON, late of Birmingham, draper—JAMES and WILLIAM LUMSDON, South Shields, chain manufacturers—MICHAEL FLOOD, Liverpool, bootmaker—THOMAS BRIDLEY, Downy, in Saddleworth, Yorkshire, farmer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—J. LARNACH, Edinburgh, hotel keeper—J. CURRIE, Paisley, starch manufacturer—P. M'INTOSH, Aberdeen, manufacturer—D. B. PATON, Dundee, draper—T. W. HARVIE, Lomahagow, grocer—J. H. ROSS, Aberdeen, clothier—P. COWLESON, Macduff, draper.

Friday, May 14.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—T. BLAXLAND, Maidstone, grocer—H. SCHWABE, Liverpool, ship owner.

BANKRUPT.—MARTHA HULBERT, Caversham, Oxford, parchment manufacturer—JOHN JONES, High Holborn, stationer—ARTHUR GILBEY, Charlotte-terrace, New-cut, grocer—AUGUSTUS THOMAS GOODCHILD (trading as THOMAS GOODCHILD), Three Colt-street, Limehouse, ironmonger—JOHN DUNHAM, Bolt-court, Fleet-street, licensed victualler—HENRY MOORE OWEN, White Hart-court, Lombard-street, wine merchant—ELIJAH WYATT, Shipdham, Norfolk, miller—JOHN BUXTON, Brighthelmton, Derby, grocer—EDWIN BARWICK, Snaith, York, printer—JOHN SEDDON, Liverpool, shipwright—MICHAEL CONSTANTINIDI, Manchester, merchant—JAMES GRAY SOTTEE, North Shields, miller.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—A. RUSSELL, Kirkintilloch, fletcher—G. OLIVER and Co., Glasgow, commission merchants—M'PHEERSON and LEDINGHAM, Huntly, fletchers—D. BLAIR, Dumbarton, farmer—J. TOD, Edinburgh, tailor—A. RUSSELL, North Berwick, fisherman—P. CHISTIE, Perth, shipowner—A. BLAIR, Galashiels, tobacconist.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

Titiens, Albion, Ortolani, Piccolomini, Belletti, Benvenuto, Visconti, Aldighieri, and Giuglini.

The following arrangements have been made:—

On Tuesday, May 18, THE HUGUENOTS.

Wednesday, May 19 (Extra Night), IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA (for the first time this season); and an Act of a favourite Opera, in which Madlle. Piccolomini will appear; and various Entertainments in the Ballet, in which Madlle. Pocchini will appear. To commence at Half-past Seven.

Thursday, May 20 (Extra Night), DON GIOVANNI and Ballet.

Friday, May 21 (Extra Night), IL TROVATORE and Ballet.

Friday, May 22, GRAND MORNING CONCERT, in which all the Artists of the establishment will appear.

Monday, June 7, a GRAND MORNING PERFORMANCE, in which all the Artists of the Establishment will perform, including all the Artists of the Ballet.

In answer to numerous communications it is announced that, for the convenience of the Gentry residing in the environs, a Grand Morning Performance will be given on Monday, June 7.

Applications to be made at the Box-office at the Theatre.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC.

NAPLES, POMPEII, and VESUVIUS, EVERY NIGHT (except Saturday), at 8; and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday Afternoons, at 3.—Places can be secured at the box-office, Egyptian Hall, daily, between 11 and 4, without any extra charge.

ROSA BONHEUR'S New Pictures, LANDAIS.

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